

whole story. What counts is the policy to be administered by the new department, and we urge that it be administered generously.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): The hon. member referred to eight cases on relief in Winnipeg. I had a report on March 3 from the superintendent of public welfare. Immediately we sent a welfare officer to Winnipeg to make an investigation. My information is that six of these are looked after. One is looking after a dependent mother, and his allowances are affected by that condition. The other two are problem cases, which I should be very glad to discuss with my hon. friend if he would be good enough to see me about them. I do not wish to mention the names here.

Mr. KNOWLES: If the minister is referring to the same cases I have in mind, I am very glad something has been done about them; I heard about them only last week. If it is true that the efforts of the Winnipeg city council in behalf of these men have resulted in action being taken, that is fine, but it is too bad it was necessary for that sort of action to be taken.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): Will my hon. friend give me the names privately some time?

Mr. KNOWLES: Yes.

Mr. FAIR: I do not consider it necessary to enter upon a long discussion of soldiers' affairs at this time, since I believe we shall be given ample opportunity for discussion on the motion for second reading of the bill, and also when the bill is being considered in committee, but I believe, it is our duty to talk freely openly and frankly. In past years we have discussed at great length what we were going to do for our veterans when they came home. Now we are trying to put something in the form of legislation, and I hope that legislation will not be a let-down to the men and women who will be coming back from the fight in the very near future. We in this group welcome the introduction of his resolution. We believe that much can be done by having all veterans' problems under one administration, and for that reason we are going to support this measure. Personally I believe the present Minister of Pensions and National Health should be and will be in charge of this new department. I believe he has the welfare of the veterans at heart; he is himself a veteran of the last war and has had brought to his attention many of the unnecessary hardships which have been endured by those who came back from great war No. 1.

One of the first things that should be done after this new department is organized is to get rid of some of the blots that now appear on the record of the administration of the problems of soldier settlers in this country. I hope that in the very near future either the Prime Minister or the Minister of Pensions and National Health will tell us that clear title is being granted to those veterans of the last great war who have remained on the land. I am not going to discuss this point at length to-night; I intend to discuss it on the second reading of the bill. When the motion for second reading is before the house I intend also to offer some suggestions with regard to the improvement of the Veterans' Land Act. If those who are to be settled under that act are to make a success of their venture I feel that some improvements are necessary; and if we are to take advantage of the experience gained under the old soldier settlement board legislation, I believe we must make some drastic changes in the Veterans' Land Act. When the new crop of veterans returns I think we shall have rather a different problem to deal with than we had in connection with the veterans of the first war. This time we shall have to deal with a number of highly educated men and women, as a result of the work they have been doing. The cream of the country have been enlisted and sent overseas. When these men and women come back we shall have many discontented individuals with whom to deal, and unless their problems are properly dealt with, this country can look for trouble, which can be avoided if the government will do the job right.

The question of the clothing allowance was brought up by the leader of the opposition. Just in the past three or four days, when returning to Ottawa, I discussed this question with men of the three services, and I hope that in the very near future the government will see fit to raise that allowance from \$65 to at least \$100. We have shown the men and women of our armed forces that when they are on active service we can provide them with more than one uniform. Therefore, let us see to it that they are given more than one suit of clothes when they resume civilian life. Then I believe it will be necessary to provide positions which will guarantee these men and women a decent standard of living, and when I say "a decent standard of living" I mean just that. I realize that the Prime Minister and the Minister of Pensions and National Health have not ventured into the sphere of the full life, but I trust that they will not subject the returning men and women to allowances only as individuals. These men and women must be provided with a living for