

non-entitlement. He is always entitled to treatment in D.V.A. hospital for conditions related to service. It is difficult to relate some conditions, however, that may arise to service entitlement conditions.

The CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: May I ask a question, Mr. Chairman. It is one that was brought up in the days of the late Hon. Ian Mackenzie, and it is something to which I objected and I think I am the only one who insisted on the elimination of that deadline. I am not going to tell you, Padre, just how old I am, but I think we have to be reasonable about this. As I understand the submission, it says the deadline should be April 30, 1952. If your submission is 1952, I think that your verbal submission is not as important as your written submission. I would like to ask, through you Mr. Chairman, the president, what their submission is as to the average age of a World War I veteran.

Colonel BAKER: I would think, sir, it would be in the neighbourhood of about 64 years.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: I had set it at 63.

Colonel BAKER: I was judging from my own age. I was 22 past when I was a casualty and I was told when I came back that the average age of a Canadian in the war was 26 years.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: I think there must be a deadline somewhere. I am not being funny about this, because I appreciate the padre's remarks, but I would like to point out that your submission says it should be 1952.

The CHAIRMAN: I think with your permission, Mr. Cruickshank, I would point out that the submission was that the deadline should be removed and then the brief apparently recognized from past experience that that was not likely. He had asked that it be raised from 51, where it now is, to 52, and at that point I interrupted to say he had cut his request in half because actually it has been hiked two years at a time until 1951, on which occasion we raised it three years because while we were still talking about it the second year slipped by.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: I would like to read from the brief, from page 7:

In any event, if the pension Act is firmly wedded to the idea of the deadline, then at least it should be advanced to April 30, 1952.

I will go along with the padre on that and I would eliminate the deadline. I do not think you should ask us as a committee to advance it to April 30, 1952. It should be to eliminate the deadline, not set a deadline.

Mr. HARKNESS: They ask for the elimination of the deadline.

Colonel BAKER: That is only an alternative in case somebody cannot agree on the elimination.

The CHAIRMAN: First we had a request and then we had an alternative suggestion.

Mr. CROLL: If we do not eliminate the deadline, April 30 would not do you very much good.

The CHAIRMAN: It will just cover the people who have been married in the last 12 months.

Any further questions?

Mr. GREEN: I would like to ask about the first recommendation again.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Green.

Mr. GREEN: As I understand the recommendation it is that pension should not be taken into consideration at all in an application for the war veterans allowance?