

Mr. Taylor, is it possible for a civil servant to receive more than 70 per cent of his average ten years' salary under the present Act?

The WITNESS: Under the present Act, no. Not under the Superannuation Act.

Mr. FRASER: Does he receive two-thirds?

The WITNESS: If he serves a maximum period of 35 years he gets 70 per cent of his average salary for his best ten years.

Mr. CRESTOHL: Under the heading of benefits to widows and children on page 6 your memorandum indicates that a widow's allowance is suspended on her remarriage but would be resumed on her becoming a widow again, and assuming she marries another civil servant would she be entitled to recover the widow's benefits twice?

The WITNESS: Yes, sir. She is entitled to both.

We did not think we should discriminate between a woman who remarries a civil servant or a bank manager or any other type of outside person who may get a pension. For example, if a civil servant's widow marries an employee of a bank—and most of the banks have pensions with benefits payable to their widows—she would get the banker's pension in addition to the civil service pension.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Are there many serious casualties among civil servants?

Mr. McILRAITH: And bankers.

The WITNESS: Before we leave widows and children, I should inform the committee that Mr. Lesage will later be moving a clarifying amendment. The way the bill is drawn now it would imply that the children always get one fifth of the widow's pension. Now, members will recall that if a widow is more than twenty years younger than her husband her pension is reduced. But we do not propose to reduce the children's pension in that case. We just caught that in checking through and we want to bring an amendment to provide that the children will get the full pension that they would be normally entitled to notwithstanding the fact that the widow gets a smaller pension because she was more than twenty years younger than her husband.

Mr. RICHARD: Why is the number of children limited to four?

The WITNESS: Because that brings the total pension of widow and children to 90 per cent of the man's pension.

Mr. RICHARD: If the widow is deceased then what?

The WITNESS: Then the maximum is 80 per cent for the orphans. There can be four orphans. Roughly speaking the children get ten per cent, and an orphan gets 20 per cent of the man's pension.

Mr. MACDONNELL: If a widow had this pension and no children of the second marriage, would the children of the first marriage be entitled to share in that?

The WITNESS: No, I think it would have to be children of that marriage.

Mr. ADAMSON: Could he legally adopt the children and get that?

The WITNESS: Child is defined as a natural child, stepchild or adopted child.

Mr. ADAMSON: Then he could?

The WITNESS: It would be possible, yes.

*By Mr. Fraser:*

Q. It says here that the pension would be resumed on her becoming a widow. If she obtains a divorce, would that be the same thing?—A. No sir.

Q. You say it would not?—A. Not under this bill.