

has been done by this House of Commons during the past twenty years, or whether he thought it a convenient opportunity to hang upon pension legislation a dissertation on his favourite theory. It appears to me, now that I think of it, that part of that favourite theory of his had something to do with pensions which have never been granted to the people of Alberta. I have never said that was a scandalous betrayal of the people of Alberta.

Mr. MacNICOL: But it was.

Mr. POWER: I close with those words.

Mr. G. A. CRUICKSHANK (Fraser Valley): I want to say a word on pensions and to say it before we have a thesis on social credit. I was a member of this committee, and very proud of it. I have been on a few other committees, and with all respect to them I can say that none of them ever worked harder than the pensions committee. But there were one or two things in the report as regards which I was not of one mind with the committee. I desire to quote *Hansard*, page 3190, from the speech delivered yesterday by the hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. McCann). I do not think this is in accord with the desire of the returned soldiers of the last war or of the Canadian Legion.

Mr. McCANN: Is it not a rule of the house that hon. members may not quote from a former speech in the same debate?

Mr. SPEAKER: This is a continuation of a debate upon a bill which has received second reading and is now receiving third reading. The hon. member is free to quote from a speech in the same debate.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: I had never known before of an hon. member being afraid to be quoted in this house. I am certainly not afraid to have anything I say quoted. The hon. member said:

But I am equally sure that there must be many people receiving pensions who are not as much entitled to them at present as when the pensions were awarded. The proof of that is that we have men enlisting in this war who are pensioners from the last war; they got a pension because they had some disability as a result of the last war, and up to the date of enlistment in the present conflict they have been receiving that pension and are receiving it now, yet they have been passed as A-1.

That does not make sense. That is one thing I took exception to.

The only other point on which I was not unanimous with the committee was spoken of by several hon. members the other day; I refer to the question of the date. If a few of us had not strenuously objected it would,

in so far as this war is concerned, have gone through first as seven years, and then as fifteen years, as the time limit for marriage following the present war; yet to-day we are opening up across Canada a recruiting campaign. Owing to our objection that provision was withdrawn. But there is still a deadline for the last war. I speak for the generation to which I happen to belong. I am not the only one in this house, but I say that this provision amounts to nothing less than legalized birth control. Just the other day, according to the daily press, a man was put in charge of the immigration policy of this country overseas, and yet we are told that we must no longer respect marriages and the birth of children to Canadians who fought in the last war. To me it is utter nonsense, to which I will never agree.

Naturally I am going to vote for this bill; it is an excellent bill compared to the last one. I quote the statement made by the minister yesterday as reported at page 3200 of *Hansard*:

Mr. Mackenzie (Vancouver Centre): There is the reason which I stated before the committee. This has been in force now for eight years. Between 1933 and 1939 would have been the proper time to lift it, if at all.

Because the committee in those days did not do its duty as it should have done to the young men who fought in the last war is no argument for the minister or anyone else to use in favour of its not being done now. Surely as members of parliament we are not going to state that there is finality in connection with war pensions. There can never be any finality so far as pensions to veterans, their widows and orphans, are concerned, so long as there is a soldier of the last war or this war still alive.

As I stated before, naturally I am voting for this bill; I think it is a wonderful improvement, but I want it definitely on record that the recommendations of the committee were not unanimous. I speak not only for myself, but also for other hon. members who are absolutely opposed to this deadline. I speak even for the Minister of Pensions and National Health. Surely the most sacred thing in this world is motherhood and the birth of a child. The minister himself is in favour of that, and I quote him. He says there should be no deadline. To my office came this book from no less an authority than the present minister. It is entitled "Canadian Mother and Child," compliments of the Hon. Ian Mackenzie, and deals with their problems. I do not see how the minister, in view of that publication, can consistently say there should be a deadline.

I want to go on record as saying definitely, as a returned soldier from the last war, that