

*Pension Act*

make an additional award not exceeding an amount equivalent to an additional eighteen months' pension where, through delays in securing service or other records, or through other administrative difficulties, beyond the applicant's control, it is apparent that an injustice might otherwise ensue."

**Mr. Abbott:** I so move.

**The Chairman:** Hon. members have heard the amendment. Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the amendment?

**Mr. Green:** Is the effect of this amendment to extend the coverage to all veterans, rather than have it restricted to veterans of world war II, as at present?

**Mr. Bennett:** Yes; it restores the act as it is at the present time. In other words, it deletes the present subsection 8 of the bill and makes section 31 (3) applicable to all veterans—those of world war I, world war II and the Korean force.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause as amended agreed to.

Clause 9 agreed to.

On clause 10—*Pension at discretion of commission in certain cases.*

**Mr. Bennett:** I believe the Minister of Finance is prepared to move the following amendment:

That clause 10 be amended by substituting the word "May" for the word "January" in the second line of subsection (5) of section 34 of the Pension Act as proposed to be enacted by the said clause 10.

**Mr. Abbott:** I so move.

**The Chairman:** Are hon. members prepared to accept the amendment that has been read, moved by the Minister of Finance?

Amendment agreed to.

Clause as amended agreed to.

On clause 11.

**Mr. Bennett:** I understand the Minister of Finance is prepared to move the following amendment:

That clause 11 be amended by substituting the word "May" for the word "January" in the second, fourteenth and sixteenth lines of paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 36 of the Pension Act as proposed to be enacted by the said clause 11.

**Mr. Abbott:** I so move.

**The Chairman:** Hon. members have heard the amendment moved by the Minister of Finance.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause as amended agreed to.

On clause 12.

**Mr. Bennett:** With respect to clause 12 the Minister of Finance will move:

That clause 12 be amended by substituting the word "May" for the word "January" in the second,

[Mr. Bennett.]

fourteenth and sixteenth lines of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 37 of the Pension Act as proposed to be enacted by the said clause 12.

**Mr. Abbott:** I so move.

**Mr. Knowles:** Will the Minister of Finance explain the amendment.

**Mr. Abbott:** It is a change in date—just making it a little later.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause as amended agreed to.

On clause 13—*Additional award.*

**Mr. Bennett:** I understand that the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration—

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Bennett:**—will move the following amendment:

That the following be substituted as clause 13 of the bill:

"13. Subsection (3) of section 42 of the said act is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

(3) Notwithstanding limitations contained in this section, the commission may, in its discretion, make an additional award not exceeding an amount equivalent to an additional eighteen months' pension where, through delays in securing service or other records or through other administrative difficulties, beyond the applicant's control, it is apparent that an injustice might otherwise ensue; but no such payment may be made in respect of any member of the forces who has died for any period prior to the date of death."

**Mr. Harris:** I so move.

**The Chairman:** Hon. members have heard the amendment.

**Mr. Green:** Will the parliamentary assistant explain the effect of this amendment.

**Mr. Bennett:** Section 42 of the act applies to pension cases where pensions are paid on account of death, while section 31 applies to disability pensions. This amendment restores the act to where it was before Bill 339 was introduced, and also makes applicable all the benefits of that section to the Korean, world war I and world war II veterans.

**Mr. Brooks:** And it is in agreement with what was decided in committee?

**Mr. Bennett:** Yes, that is what the committee recommended.

**Mr. Fleming:** Is it not possible to improve the draftsmanship? In the last clause the amendment reads "but no such payment may be made in respect of any member of the forces who has died"—and I am drawing attention to the last words "for any period prior to the date of death". I am trying to follow it only after a quick reading of it. Is not the meaning that no payment is to be made for any period prior to the date of death in respect of any member of the forces who has died?