

Mr. KNOWLES: We always forget them.

Mr. CLARK: However, I should explain that the provision under the present act whereby the amount of benefit reduces gradually after age 60 still applies. In other words, it goes down by one-tenth, but it is still subject to the minimum paid-up benefit of \$500 which was introduced into the act a few years ago. So, that remains for all persons, but the step-down formula is still the same.

Mr. TARDIF: What happens to the man who pays this additional cost for this additional protection and goes on pension for five years and then dies?

Mr. CLARK: The premiums are in the nature of term insurance, whereby it is for a month at a time that you are providing protection.

Mr. KNOWLES: If you do not die you live!

Mr. CLARK: The paid-up benefit, for which the Government, incidentally, pays in full, is the one that is carried on into the future, no matter how long he lives.

The Co-CHAIRMAN (*Mr. Richard*): Are there any other questions?

Mr. KNOWLES: Mr. Clark referred to the fact this does not cover people already retired, and I am not going to ring the changes on that now, but I am sure, Mr. Chairman, you were delighted with Mr. Benson's answer to my question this morning in the house that he would not object to our being given terms of reference so we could discuss retired civil servants after we get the rest of this legislation through.

The Co-CHAIRMAN (*Mr. Richard*): That would be a very welcome suggestion.

Mr. BELL (*Carleton*): I would like to pursue one other matter in connection with this section of the bill. It may be Dr. Davidson would feel he should reserve it for the minister, and if he does I will quite understand.

I did express on second reading my concern at the provisions of the bill which substituted "Minister" for "Treasury Board" in every case where the term "Treasury Board" appears in the act. I expressed, I think, on second reading the feeling this was putting entirely into the hands of one minister what previously had been in the hands of Treasury Board, the opportunity to check error. If Dr. Davidson feels free to comment upon it, I would be glad if he did. If not, I would like to have it taken as notice that I do feel a real explanation of this change ought to be given to the committee.

Dr. DAVIDSON: Mr. Bell, could I perhaps not give a full explanation but open up the issue to some extent? I think it is not quite correct to state that in the amendment of the bill in all cases where "Treasury Board" has previously been referred to is substituted therefor "the Minister."

Mr. BELL (*Carleton*): With three exceptions, I think.

Dr. DAVIDSON: What we tried to do was to separate out those places where the Treasury Board reference seemed to have meaning in terms of a policy decision of some kind being required from those instances where it was a question of Treasury Board exercising a discretion with respect to an in-