

action. Then they referred the matter to the Committee. The 71 cases have accumulated in that way.

Now, I support the amendment for this reason, that these cases will now be referred back to the Finance Minister. He or his deputies are responsible for the situation that has arisen, and if he looks up Hansard of the Senate he will find therein the opinion which I now express, that, having got the Government and the country and himself into the difficulty that now exists, he should give to the amendment which we are about to enact an interpretation which will do substantial justice to all the deserving cases under the Act.

The proposed amendment of Hon. Mr. Béique was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: I move further that section 2 of the Bill be amended by striking out the words "applicants who are now living shall be given the right to insure, whether they," and by substituting the words "applicant now living shall be given the right to insure, provided such applicant has any person actually dependant upon him at the date of making application for insurance, whether he;" and by inserting after the word "shall," in line 15, the words, "subject to the above proviso;" and by inserting after the word "applicants," in line 19, the words "actually had dependants and had."

The proposed amendment was agreed to.

The preamble and the title were agreed to.

The Bill was reported as amended.

### THIRD READING

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND moved the third reading of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the third time and passed.

### PENSION BILL

#### CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE

On motion of Hon. Mr. Dandurand, the Senate went into Committee on Bill 205, an Act to amend the Pension Act.

Hon. Mr. Bradbury in the Chair.

Section 1 was agreed to.

Subsection 1 of section 2 was agreed to.

On subsection 2 of section 2—"the war":

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: I move that subsection 2 be struck out of the Bill. That is the provision regarding the widowed mother. It is one of the clauses to which I referred.

S—80

Hon. Mr. GIRROIR: Has a provision to that effect been recommended by the Royal Commission?

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: No, it was not before the Royal Commission.

Hon. Mr. DANIEL: The mother whose husband is in a helpless dependent condition will, as I understand, be able to come before the Board and have the case considered?

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: Yes, there can be consideration of any special cases.

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: I did not hear what the honourable gentleman said, as there is a good deal of noise down here; but before the amendment is carried I desire to say that the intention was to make a wife whose husband was entirely crippled rank as a widow. We—that is to say, the ex-service men—considered that without doubt an amendment of this sort should carry, for the reason that the woman whose husband is absolutely paralyzed is worse off than a widow. On consideration, we are inclined to think that such a case—

Hon. Mr. GIRROIR: Is the honourable gentleman speaking of subsection 2, or of the amendment now proposed?

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: The amendment is merely to strike out subsection 2, and I am speaking to subsection 2 as it now stands. We consent to the amendment on the distinct understanding—and we are placing on Hansard what I am now saying for the purposes of interpretation—that this is a meritorious case which it will be proper for the tribunal we are about to create to consider with a view to amelioration. That is the understanding on which we would consent to the striking out of this subsection.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: If her husband got better, what would you do?

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: That is a matter of medical opinion. If the husband completely recovered, then the case would not longer be meritorious.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: There would have to be another Act?

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: Not at all. Pensions are constantly increased and lowered or cancelled. That is a matter of rating.

The proposed amendment was agreed to.

On section 3—disabilities in respect of which pensions claimed:

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: I move;

That section eleven of the said Act, as enacted in by chapter sixty-two of the statutes of 1920, and