

*By Mr. Quelch:*

Q. Mr. Chairman, the bill provides, in section 4, for "a female veteran or widow". What has the experience of the Legion been in regard to the operation of section 4? Suppose a veteran comes under the monthly ceiling, and suppose his income goes up and his allowance stops during that time. Now, suppose he stops working. Once more his income would be dependent on the allowance. Have you found there was any undue delay in the restoration of the allowance, or have you found that within the succeeding month the allowance is paid?

Mr. THOMPSON: We have not had any specific cases of complaint bearing on that question. We know of very few veterans who have availed themselves of section 4. We made a point in 1952 when this was brought out, of giving publicity to it. In that respect the department was very cooperative in providing material and a sample outline of how section 4 would operate. We have tried to point out that there are certain advantages to the men who can qualify for section 4. There are not very many who can qualify, because of the type of employment available to these veterans. We have not received any complaints at our headquarters of any delay in their getting back on the allowance.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Philpott.

*By Mr. Philpott:*

Q. Could the Legion indicate the number of men who would be affected by section 6, who are veterans of World War I? Have you made any survey of distress among these people? In many cases they are pretty old by now. In many cases they were anxious to go to France, and probably rendered better service in England. But there must be distress in a certain proportion among them, just as there is among the burned-out veterans.

Mr. THOMPSON: No. But the department would probably have a record of the figures. As far as this is concerned, I think it would be proportionate to the picture of those veterans who are eligible for veterans allowance.

The CHAIRMAN: Could the deputy minister give the committee the number of people who would be affected by the suggestion that the veterans of the first world war who served only in England, be permitted to receive the war veterans allowance?

Mr. GARNEAU: I believe there would be about 11,400, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: That is the total number of veterans who could apply?

Mr. GARNEAU: That is the total number of veterans who could apply. The probable number living is about 52,000 and we figure with the average payment to those veterans that approximately about 11,400 or 11,500 would probably come under the Act.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Quelch.

*By Mr. Quelch:*

Q. Have you any idea how many of those would be totally disabled?

Mr. GARNEAU: This is only an off the cuff guess, but if we took as a yardstick the age of other recipients on account of age and disabilities, it might be 45 to 55 or 50-50, and possibly more as they are in an older age group.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pearkes.

*By Mr. Pearkes:*

Q. Are there any records to show the year of arrival in England? There would appear to be some difference between the men who arrived in 1914 or 1915 and the men who arrived in 1919.