

principles will be enacted in the legislation, and there are other amendments dealing with administration and procedure. Provisions are being made for Canadians serving with the imperial forces, which provisions will be in accordance with the terms of an order in council passed already. When the bill passes the second reading it will be referred immediately to the committee appointed the other day by the house. This committee is now being organized and every part of the bill will be carefully considered by it.

Mr. GREEN: How many men in our new forces have been granted pensions already?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): The total number is 484, made up of 148 on account of disability, 273 to dependents for death, and 63, gratuities in settlement for disability.

Mr. GREEN: That is, 484 out of approximately 20,000 men who have been discharged?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): That is all the Canadians who have been discharged up to date, those serving overseas and in Canada.

Mr. GREEN: Of those who have received pension, what number served in England and what number in Canada?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): I have not that information before me.

Mr. GREEN: Will the minister have it to-morrow?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): Yes.

Mr. BROOKS: Are there any in addition to that 20,000?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): Pension adjudication is fairly well up to date. It takes from forty to forty-five days after a discharge is given to get a decision.

Mr. GREEN: How many applications for pension have been rejected?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): In the early stages there were several thousand rejected. I shall get the exact information and give it to my hon. friend later.

Mr. GREEN: Is there any difference as to the qualifications for pension between the man who has served in England and the man who has served in Canada? I understand a different principle is applied when a man has served overseas.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): There is a section in the bill which repeats in statutory form the provisions of the order in

council passed on May 21, 1940, which dealt with those who served overseas. The principles are the same as those that governed the award of pensions to those who served in the great war. In reference to those who served in Canada, after the passing of the order in council of May 21, 1940, the insurance principle was departed from and pensions are awarded for disabilities incurred on service. In other words, the disability must be due to service as such.

Mr. GREEN: Just what does that mean? Suppose a man is injured in one of the military camps; under what condition would he be given a pension?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): If the injury or disability is incurred while he is actually on service, while he is carrying out the ordinary duties of his service, he would be pensionable, but if he were accidentally injured while doing something apart from his ordinary military service duties, he would not be pensionable. This is a contentious provision and it will be thoroughly discussed by the special committee.

Mr. GREEN: Is it the principle that he must be, for example, actually drilling or firing a rifle the time of injury to qualify for a pension?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): He must be on duty. A certain amount of latitude and discretion is left to the pension commission in the administration of this provision, and instructions have been given to place the fairest possible interpretation upon it.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): The minister says that it takes about forty-five days before the pension is granted or refused. What happens to the man in the interim? What has he to live on?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): Some of them are undergoing treatment in the hospitals of the department. Under an order in council passed last year treatment allowances can be continued up until the award of pension, or, if pension is not awarded, up to seven days after the decision has been made. With regard to other cases, provisions have been made in regard to the various committees throughout Canada, and the civil service commission is appointing very shortly welfare officers to consider perfecting the liaison between the different departments to provide for the thorough after-care of these men.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): With regard to the principle underlying the pensions to be granted those injured in Canada, does the minister mean to imply that it is the