

and do away with the Assistance Fund. I think that is all I have to say, because, as I said, Mrs. Darville went very well over the ground.

Thank you, gentlemen.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mrs. Caunt. Mrs. Darville?

Mrs. DARVILLE: I would like to mention that I feel that these people should be allowed to earn a little more. Quite often they have an opportunity to get something to be done during the summer and if they earn over the amount that is allowed they are taken off the allowance, so there really isn't much incentive for these people to try to get ahead on this; that is, if they can get ahead on this.

Mr. GREEN: Mrs. Darville, have you given any thought to the new provision permitting the veteran to go on a monthly basis? In other words to take employment whenever he can get it, and then when he is not employed to go back under War Veterans Allowance?

Mrs. DARVILLE: We haven't had that given to us yet.

Mr. GREEN: Pardon me?

Mrs. DARVILLE: We haven't had that given to us, we haven't had that bill.

Mr. GREEN: You have not seen the new bill?

Mrs. DARVILLE: I don't think so.

Mr. GREEN: At the moment that provision does not apply to the widow; it only applies to the veteran, but it might be worth while for your association to give some thought to that proposition just to see whether it would help you.

Mrs. DARVILLE: Mr. Chairman, would assistance be allowed to come into that?

The CHAIRMAN: Do you mean to discuss it now?

At the moment, Mr. Green is right. The bill does not specify an extension of section 4 to widows. There has been no discussion so far.

Mrs. DARVILLE: May I ask, Mr. Chairman, if these widows may avail themselves of that privilege?

The CHAIRMAN: In your view, Mrs. Darville, do you believe an extension of that privilege to the widows would be of major benefit to them?

Mrs. DARVILLE: I certainly do.

The CHAIRMAN: It is proposed that it will work in some such way as this: Having elected to take war veterans' allowance under section 4, the veteran, in those months when he earns, may retain his earnings. I emphasize the word "earnings". In the months when he is unable to earn the war veterans allowance may be received. What Mr. Green is asking is whether you think that would be of assistance to your widows?

Mrs. DARVILLE: I do.

Mrs. CAUNT: Might I answer to that question?

I do not think that would be of very much assistance to the widows because they are all too old to earn any money. Of course, the allowance is not granted until age 55. Nowadays they do not want a person after 40, so it is pretty hard for a widow of 60 and up to 70 to get any work at all. We know that because we are dealing with widows all the time.

I do not think it would be of much benefit to the women.

Mr. GREEN: I do not think you would be wise to turn it down too hard because it does not affect your present rights to war veterans allowance, and it may be of great help to a widow who could get work.

Mr. HERRIDGE: I would like to ask Mrs. Darville a question on that point. While it may apply to a great extent in large cities, and I have no experience with that, I am sure Mrs. Darville will agree with me that in many small