

say a word for them before this committee. I appreciate this perhaps is not the committee and that we could not expect to get anything out of the fund for these people, but we did hope the government would try to do something independently for these people.

Mr. McCUSKER: I did not wish to indicate lack of sympathy for these people.

By Mr. Brooks:

Q. Mr. Whitehouse said some of these people might die between 65 and 70 from not having sufficient pension. What is the range between the minimum and maximum?—A. I do not remember saying that some of these people might die.

Q. I remember you saying something along that line. There is no question about that.—A. I hope the newspapers will quote me correctly on that. As I said, sir, it is difficult to figure out because the salary scales differ and the superannuation is based on the salary received over the years. We have a number of superannuated civil servants who are receiving as low as \$25 or \$30 a month, but that is due to the fact that they did not have sufficient service to bring their pension up.

Mr. McILRAITH: It might be too small a salary and a short term of employment.

Mr. LESAGE: It has to be a short term if it is only \$25 a month.

By Mr. Fraser:

Q. Mr. Whitehouse has asked for a five year basis for the superannuation instead of ten. Now, this is owing to the fact that increases of salaries have only come into effect, is it, during the last six or seven years?—A. Since 1944 we have received six or seven salary increases.

Q. And naturally the people who are going out of the service in the very near future would like to have the superannuation based on these years. They are the ones going out in the next few years?—A. Yes. The superannuation would naturally be larger for all people if it was on the last five years' average.

Mr. FRASER: To what extent would it affect the fund?

The WITNESS: Those are figures I have not got.

Mr. LESAGE: Would Mr. Taylor have those figures?

Mr. TAYLOR: We asked for them last night and a memorandum is being prepared on that subject.

By Mr. McIlraith:

Q. In the first point you raised I noticed you referred to the last five years. Do you prefer the last five years to the best five years?—A. It was the five year average rather than the ten year. The present superannuation as you no doubt know is based on the average salary for the past ten years. We would like that based on five years.

Q. I understand you prefer five years instead of ten, but I notice you used the term over the last five years and I was wondering what your preference was as between the last five and the best five?—A. I would prefer the best five.

Mr. FRASER: Naturally.

Mr. McILRAITH: The point is that the best term as opposed to the last term does permit some of these employees in some departments to take lower salaried jobs and the change is of some advantage to them.