

Mr. BENNETT (*Grey North*): I was wondering if we could decide to report this bill tonight. I have been advised that the Senate is adjourning on March 31, and, if we do not get this bill reported and into the House tomorrow, we probably will not get Royal Assent until May. It is quite important for the veterans that we should get this back into the House tomorrow. I think we could arrange that.

Mr. BROOKS: I was talking to the leader of the opposition in the Senate, and he said they did not expect to adjourn until the 1st of April. They cannot go away until the bills put before the House are assented to. I do not think we should be stampeded into rushing this bill through tonight, because there are certain motions which are being moved in connection with the report. It is 10 o'clock and I object very strenuously because I think you are working on wrong premises, Mr. Bennett. The Senate is not closing on the 31st.

Mr. BENNETT (*Grey North*): I was told just three minutes ago that it was.

Mr. HAHN: That really does not make much difference, because the bill will not come into effect until the month following. If it was dealt with on April 6th, it would not come into effect until May 6.

The CHAIRMAN: Why should we not go on now and take up anything which we want to put into our report tonight? If we do not want to endanger this coming into force on the first of April, why should we not get this done tonight?

Mr. HANNA: I would like to suggest that we sit until after 10 o'clock if necessary so that this can come into effect before April.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, what do you say, Mr. Bennett? The suggestion is that we should continue sitting for a time, anyway. I think we should consider the various suggestions which people want to bring forward along with reporting the bill.

Mr. HANNA: I make that a motion—that we sit after 10 o'clock if necessary so that we may report the bill as early as possible.

Mr. HAHN: I second that.

Mr. BROOKS: We are meeting tomorrow at 3.30, tomorrow, the 25th. There is no reason why we should not finish this bill tomorrow. Surely it is not necessary to rush it through tonight. I think this is very unfair.

Mr. DICKEY: It would be even more unfair to the veterans not to do it tonight.

Mr. BROOKS: Always there is a threat thrown in.

Mr. BENNETT (*Grey North*): No. I do not see any object in holding this up. We have passed the bill. Why cannot we report it. The Veterans Benefit Act is being referred to this committee.

Mr. BROOKS: We made a resolution which has been voted down. The chairman has suggested that a recommendation similar to that one can be included in the report sent to the House. We intend to move such a motion, and we feel we should be given opportunity to do so.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the idea is that you should have the right to bring forward anything you want to bring forward tonight. You know what you want to bring forward, and the committee can deal with it. However, it is for the committee to decide. I have a motion that we should continue sitting.

Mr. ROBERGE: I move that we consider Mr. Bennett's amendment now.