

Mr. GREEN: Colonel Garneau, in your first percentages there, did you include widows?

Mr. GARNEAU: No, sir, I just added that.

Mr. GREEN: In other words, there are two separate groups. You have given percentages for all widows and all men.

The CHAIRMAN: Today, but in the original presentation he said the 46 per cent included the widows.

Mr. GREEN: I asked that because if the widows were included in the first figure then there would be one group from 55 to 60.

The CHAIRMAN: The widows were included in the first group, and the real difference is the difference between 46 and 32, is that not correct?

Mr. GARNEAU: Roughly.

Mr. JUTRAS: What was the total, the total recipients of war veterans' allowance?

Mr. GARNEAU: 38,021.

Mr. JUTRAS: That is the total number of recipients of war veterans' allowances as of March 1?

Mr. GARNEAU: Yes, but in my statement here—I believe I gave the same basis in the other one—the total number of veterans, 29,137, my purpose was to set out the veterans only by wars in which they served.

Mr. JUTRAS: 29,000?

Mr. GARNEAU: 29,137.

The CHAIRMAN: If anybody wants a copy of that statement, I have extra copies here.

The discussion, gentlemen, is on Bill 181, and we are now on clause 2—that is the customary place to start, interpretation.

Mr. WHITE: Mr. Chairman, before you proceed with the bill there is a motion I would like to move. I move, seconded by Mr. Green, that the committee recommend that the government give consideration to introducing legislation during the present session of parliament which will give effect to the representations submitted to committee by the Legion and National Council of Veterans that the rates of allowance and the maximum total incomes set out in the schedules to Bill 181 should be increased.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I do not probably have to make any extended remarks regarding this motion because it speaks for itself. We have all heard and read the recommendations submitted by these various organizations who appeared before the committee, and in their brief they submitted certain cases and other information in support of the recommendations that they made, and I hardly need to point out that every member of the committee through yourself probably knows of individual cases in his community where a veteran receiving allowances under this Act has suffered under a great disability. Now, Mr. Chairman, in case someone may say that this motion will tend to delay the passing of the bill for payment of the increased benefits to the veterans, which will be retroactive to January 1, 1952, I will point out that if the motion receives the support of the committee it could be presented in the House today and at one of our meetings next week, gentlemen, we could, no doubt, have the answer of the government, and in the meantime there probably would be no reason why the bill could not be proceeded with clause by clause and approved and reported. I point out, further, that there is a precedent for this motion, because those of us who were members of the last Veterans Affairs Committee will recall a similar motion whereby the committee recommended to the government that consideration be given to increased basic rates of pension. That motion was passed and the recommendation made and the government did act upon the