

battlefield and she came to Canada right after the first Great War where she raises two boys, and when she gets her pension she gets the large amount of \$26.16 owing to the currency going right down. I do feel that there should be something done in the way of bringing up those pensions on a level with that received by the Canadian widow.

And I would like to speak for a moment about the deserted wife. We all know that when the men came back they were definitely not the same as they were when they went over, and quite a few of these men came back shell-shocked and shattered. They had no idea of half the things they were saying to their wives, the children would be tiresome and the men would be tired; the men would be suffering from shell-shock; and the first thing the wife knew the man had gone off and she never saw him any more; but, because she was not living in the same house as he when he died she is not eligible for the pension—

The CHAIRMAN: You mean, the war veterans allowance.

Mrs. DARVILLE: I mean for the war veterans allowance, yes.

Then there is one other short thing I would like to bring before you, about headstones. Quite a number of widows feel the headstones are not being taken care of.

The CHAIRMAN: Whereabouts, Mrs. Darville; you mean graves in Canada or overseas?

Mrs. DARVILLE: In Canada.

Mr. GREEN: Is that the graves of veterans?

Mrs. DARVILLE: Yes, the graves of veterans. There is the one at Little Mountain for example.

There is also a matter of the sole support of a son. When he goes overseas and the father is alive he makes his mother an allowance, the usual sons allowance; and then he comes back and then his father dies making him a sole supporter. Instead of her getting a full pension which she would have had her husband not died, she only gets \$40.21. We feel that there is rather an injustice here. Therefore, I feel that it is not too much to ask for \$60 for these widows rather than the \$40.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mrs. Darville. I understand that your secretary, Mrs. Caunt, desires to add a word to what you have said.

Mrs. DARVILLE: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Caunt?

Mrs. L. CAUNT, (Secretary, Canadian Non-Pensioned Veterans' Widows): I want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for making it possible for Mrs. Darville and myself to appear before you gentlemen because we appreciate it. I think that Mrs. Darville has gone very well over all of the main resolutions in the small brief that we have presented. I would just like to add a word on medical care. Of course, as you are aware it is difficult. I come from Toronto, and anyone who can't pay for it gets it through their municipality; but we feel that something should be done because with a widow living on \$40.21, it is impossible for her to pay the doctor or pay for any medicine. And then, in Ontario, we have a lot of what you call border-line cases. We hope that you will give sympathetic consideration to these border-line cases of the Imperial veterans' widows, and then there is the Assistance Fund. We are not altogether satisfied with the Assistance Fund. Those who qualify for it who have to be very needy, and those that don't get it think they should receive it; and I should think that Mr. MacInnis, who has charge of that, has quite an item on his hands to know who ought to get the assistance and who should not get it. Therefore, we feel that the allowance should be raised \$60 from the Atlantic to the Pacific, to everybody