

4. That the widows of Imperial veterans who have resided in Canada for twenty years and whose late husbands died prior to having the necessary qualifications be granted the widows' allowance under the War Veterans Allowance Act.

As the Act stands now the Imperial veteran must have resided in Canada for twenty years.

Respectfully submitted

Gentlemen, I would like to say on the first resolution, number 1, that these women find it utterly impossible; they don't live, they just exist; it is impossible to live on the present amount of \$40.21. They have to pay \$25 rent. I have made a very strict survey in the whole of British Columbia, both by mail and by personal appearances, and I find that most of the people have to pay \$25 monthly rent, and they have hospitalization; and to get hospitalization they have to pay \$35 to get into a hospital which takes almost a month's money; so they are hoping that you gentlemen will give some attention to giving them some free form of hospitalization and medical care and medicine.

On number 2, we find that this also is a very, very hard proposition. The men enlisted in good faith and through no fault of their own they were not in the front line, therefore they are disqualified. And now, when these men enlisted they did not tell their C.O. where they were going. I happened to have been in the first war myself, and I wasn't in the line. I was only a volunteer worker; I could not go where I liked; and these men could not go where they liked, they had to go where they were sent; and if they happened to be a carpenter, a mechanic or an engineer of some kind they were sent where they were most useful. A fighting man could not get on without the mechanic and the mechanic could not get along without the fighting men, just the same as the capitalists cannot get along without labour and labour cannot get along without the capitalist.

On number 3—I have taken care of that under medical care. Speaking of medical care, you have already taken care of the widows and the dependants of those who are killed by accident. There has been new legislation, through the federal government in the last three months I understand, with the Workmen's Compensation Board. Now, the man is killed and he comes under Workmen's Compensation and I understand that it takes care of the widow and the dependants as to medical care. And now, if that can be done for a man who is killed and comes under Workmen's Compensation benefit, I cannot see any reason why it cannot be done under Veterans Affairs.

Now, the imperial widow must reside in Canada for 20 years—we in British Columbia do not have as low as six weeks—one, I think, is a matter of days, so many days—in Mr. Good's riding in Richmond. Now, I do feel that respecting some of these widows there can be some line drawn; some of these widows were even born in Canada and have never been any place else, but because they happened to marry an Imperial soon after the first Great War, if their husbands did not live long enough they were automatically disqualified; and, gentlemen, I rather feel it is too bad we haven't got some widows definitely on this committee.

Now, in regard to the \$40.21; I see that our labour unions across Canada cannot agree that their men can get along with \$200 a month or \$300 a month working a 35 hour week with an actual take home pay for 40 hours; and if they can't live on the \$300 a month how in the name of goodness can a widow live on \$40? To me that is the \$64 question.

I am going to speak for a very short moment about the Imperial widow who is receiving that 100 per cent pension. Her husband was killed on the