

*Army Benevolent Fund Act and Related Acts*

special procedure for such consultation? Can the Minister tell us how he will proceed to appoint those members?

[English]

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Chairman, the people are recommended by the various veterans' organizations in proportion to the size of those organizations. As the Hon. Member knows very well, the Legion is the biggest such organization, and then there is the War Amps and the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans and various very excellent organizations right across the country. All of these nominate the members for these committees.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Chairman, I understand that and I take it that the amendment that we are studying corrects somewhat something that has been going on for some time. Every province has a committee. We are trying to centralize these committees with this Bill, are we not?

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Chairman, they have already been centralized and this simply legalizes what has been done.

**Mr. Gauthier:** I thank the Hon. Minister.

**Mr. Nunziata:** Mr. Chairman, this particular amendment, as the explanatory note points out, would require the board to establish a central committee. The explanatory note points out the following:

Subsections 5(1) and (2) at present read as follows:

"5.(1) The Board shall establish a committee for each province; one for the United Kingdom and one for the United States;—

I note that in the proposed amendment, there is no reference to the United Kingdom nor is there a reference to a committee for the United States. Why in the proposed amendment is there no reference to the United Kingdom and the United States and why was there a need in the previous Act and not a need now for reference to the United Kingdom and the United States?

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Chairman, after the end of the war, there was a tremendous number of cases to be examined and dealt with. At that time, there were these additional committees. Now it is not necessary to have those committees and they have been done away with. The whole thing is done here from Ottawa.

**The Chairman:** Shall Clause 1 carry?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Clause agreed to.

**The Chairman:** Shall Clause 2 carry?

On Clause 2—

[Translation]

**Mr. Isabelle:** Mr. Chairman, I have a question for the Minister. I would like to know whether in Clause 2—

[English]

On page 2, Clause 2 reads:

"'educational institution' means a technical or vocational school, . . . approved by the Minister for the education or instruction of students pursuant to this Act;"—

Is the Minister going to make a list of those technical or vocational schools or institutions throughout Canada to which students could be admitted under this Act?

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Chairman, the answer to that question is that the Minister approves of all of these schools. The reason that the wording is inserted there is to give the Minister, at any time it might be necessary, the right for reason to disapprove of some particular school if it was considered that the actions of that school were not beneficial for our purposes.

**Mr. Angus:** Mr. Chairman, are there any training opportunities that are not covered by this clause? For example, could the son or daughter of a vet take an apprenticeship program given by the private sector and still be eligible for the assistance under this clause?

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Chairman, the Act provides for the tuition required for this kind of education, and I am advised that education of this kind in the private sector is not included. The education must be attained through a public educational facility.

**Mr. Angus:** Mr. Chairman, my understanding is that part of the apprenticeship programs that are entered into in the Province of Ontario require a certain amount of training in a recognized institution such as a community college. People from Thunder Bay go to Sault Ste Marie for this. The component of their study that is undertaken at the college would be eligible, is that correct?

**Mr. Hees:** The answer to that question, Mr. Chairman, is yes.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Chairman, I take it that when the Minister says yes, the amendment before us will allow the payment of assistance to orphans who have not completed high school. It used to be a prerequisite that the orphans had to complete high school before they were eligible for these grants, but now they do not have to. Except for children of veterans of the Korean War, I cannot think that there are many students today who would be eligible for this.

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Chairman, I am advised that the number is 582 students.

[Translation]

**Mr. Nunziata:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister whether the students are over or under 18. Is there—

[English]

—a requirement in the Act that there be an age limit?