

*War Veterans Allowance Act***MULTICULTURALISM****POSSIBILITY OF RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAMS IN THE ESKIMO AND CREE LANGUAGES**

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** Mr. Speaker, my question involves three departments, that of the Minister of Communications, of the minister responsible for multiculturalism and of the minister who answers for the CBC. Out of that troika, I will direct my question to the minister who answers for the CBC. Since Anik I now makes it possible to broadcast to outlying areas of Canada, will telecasting and broadcasting be carried out in the Eskimo and Cree languages in order that the greatest number of Canadians may benefit from this service?

**Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, that is not possible at this point, but I think the hon. member will share the view that this is a desirable goal. When, exactly, it will be achieved I am not in a position to answer.

**POSSIBILITY OF LEGISLATION TO AUTHORIZE PILOT PROJECTS TO DETERMINE NEED FOR BROADCASTS IN OTHER THAN OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary to the minister who answers for multiculturalism. In line with the suggestion made by the Ukrainian Canadian committee, which restated the B & B Commission suggestion that pilot projects be undertaken to determine the need for broadcasting in other languages in certain regions, will the minister take the initiative and introduce legislation, in co-operation with the two other ministers, in order to bring this about and in order to implement some of the proposals set out in the green paper on communications?

**Hon. Stanley Haidasz (Minister of State):** Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to discuss this with the ministers responsible for the CBC and CRTC.

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS****WAR VETERANS ALLOWANCE ACT****AMENDMENT TO INCREASE AMOUNT OF PAYMENT**

**Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs)** moved that Bill C-148, to amend the War Veterans Allowance Act, as reported (without amendment) from the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Speaker:** When shall the said bill be read the third time?

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** By leave, now.

[Mr. Speaker.]

**Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan)** moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

He said: Mr. Speaker, it is with a mixture of gratitude and pride that I rise to speak at this time. I am grateful for the opportunity I have had to play a part in improving the lot of over 250,000 Canadian men, women and children who are our special responsibility. I am grateful for the co-operation and sincere desire to expedite the passage of this bill which has been demonstrated by all parties in this House. I am grateful to the men and women who served Canada in time of war in order that our democratic institutions could continue.

I am proud of our system of government and the way in which hon. members have acted, both in the House and in Committee, to ensure that no time is lost in bringing about the improvement provided for in Bill C-148. It is apparent from the actions of members of all parties that there is agreement that this is a good bill.

The remarks made by the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall) were especially appreciated, as were those of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). They indicated very clearly that members of all parties are agreed that we should move quickly to pass this amending legislation.

This bill is unique in that, in addition to proposing increases in rates and ceilings, it provides for the removal of the personal property limitations which at present stand at \$1,250 single and \$2,500 married. This measure will not only qualify some who are now ineligible, but it will also give present recipients of War Veterans Allowance or Civilian War Allowances a greater sense of freedom and dignity.

• (1540)

The proposed rates are \$151.14 single and \$257.21 married. The new monthly income ceilings will be \$191.14 single and \$327.21 married, which provide annual income ceilings of \$2,293.68 single and \$3,926.52 married. The rates for orphans will also be increased proportionately. In addition the OAS/GIS exemptions of \$15 single and \$30 married will be continued so that those recipients 65 and over will have an annual income from OAS/GIS and War Veterans Allowance or Civilian War Allowances of \$2,473.68 single and \$4,286.52 married.

These new rates and ceilings will result in a financial improvement since December 31, 1971 of 24.8 per cent single, 27.8 per cent married, and over 24 per cent for orphans. When we consider the exemptions for both husband and wife who are over 65, the increase since December 31, 1971 is 32 per cent.

These increases, together with the amendments to the regulations concerning casual earnings, which are now \$1,000 single and \$1,500 married, the removal of the penalty for having a home valued at over \$10,000 and the provision for the automatic escalation of the rates and ceilings on the first of January of each year in accordance with the rise in the consumer price index, represent in all a genuine effort to improve the standard of living of this very worthy group of Canadians.

I would like to make it clear that the remarks and suggestions made by some hon. members in the House