

also sat on it most of the time this session; in fact, I have sat on that committee during all the sessions I have been here. In the recommendations I see that nothing whatsoever has been done for those individuals who are still left under the operation of the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act. The rise in the cost of living has affected those people as well as all others. I should like some assurance from the minister that these people are to be considered when the other recommendations are being considered.

One other matter that I wish to mention at this time is in connection with merchant seamen. If the government accepts the recommendation with regard to merchant seamen, which I believe the indications are that they may, will the minister make arrangements for their attendance at technical schools, as is recommended here, as quickly as possible? And will he see that full information goes out to the public just as quickly as possible, so that those who may wish to take advantage of the opportunity may arrange for their entry into schools of this kind as quickly as they require or desire to do so.

Mr. GREGG: To reply to the question asked by the hon. member for Vancouver South earlier in the evening, the recommendations inherent in the report of the committee on veterans affairs are all receiving the careful study of the department and of myself at the present time, and I will take under consideration the remarks made by my hon. friend.

While I am on my feet, I will say that I greatly deplore the method used by the hon. member for Lethbridge in bringing before the committee in the way he has individual cases of extreme difficulty, with names and numbers. Although I know about the cases concerned, I will not tonight go into the extremely difficult circumstances surrounding them, because I do not think it is right to do so. All I will say is this. While the parliamentary committee dealt with suggestions and proposals for amending the legislation on principle, and did not go into individual cases, they did bring individual cases to my attention. I think nearly every member of this house has, since last January, brought to my attention cases of veterans' difficulties; and I have tried to give them a most complete opportunity to see all sides of the cases. The same opportunity would have been provided to the hon. member for Lethbridge had he desired to take advantage of it. That is my only comment on the matter, except to say that, while these estimates are up, I did intend to pay just one word of tribute to the excellent work performed by all mem-

bers of the parliamentary committee on veterans affairs during this session of parliament.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Vancouver Centre.

Mr. BLACKMORE: What number did you call, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Vancouver Centre.

Mr. MacNICOL: Has he a number too?

Mr. YOUNG: I should like to draw to the attention of the minister the case of veterans on allowance at universities. This matter comes particularly to my attention because until recently I was one of them. A number of veterans who are single men and who are at the universities are now drawing D.V.A. allowances; but because their particular courses are such that there is no room for them at Canadian universities, they will have to go abroad. I particularly refer to 483 pre-medical students who are in the country now and for whom there is no room to carry on their studies at Canadian universities. Just about the time I left Vancouver for Ottawa, one of them was busy getting ready to fly to Australia to take his course. The amount of money the department has been allowed for the purpose of helping those veterans, \$60 a month—while it may be of vital assistance to them while they are pursuing their studies in Canada—is extremely small in relation to the price structure in the United States and some other countries. Has the minister any suggestions as to how the government may assist financially those who are compelled to go abroad to complete their education?

Mr. GREGG: That matter was discussed before the committee and has been discussed on many other occasions. At present the additional assistance granted for dependents of veteran students during the winter has not been extended to any increase for those without dependents. The situation will be watched carefully during the coming academic year, but in the meantime it is not my intention to make any further proposals to my colleagues in this connection. I would point out to my hon. friend that the amount was never intended as a complete living allowance but rather as a generous scholarship. In the case of the medical students he mentioned it is possible now, when tuition fees have gone up, as in some cases to as much as \$500 a year, to have the entire tuition paid in addition to the \$60 a month. The matter is kept under constant review.