

Mr. BLACKMORE: I was pointing out to the hon. member for Parkdale that the 1939 act was certainly far less than the veterans of Canada had a right to expect from this country. So that if the present bill is inferior to the 1939 legislation, I think further comment is unnecessary. The Minister of National Defence for Air (Mr. Power) spoke of my having used the word "scandalous." I did not use that word, but I do not know that I would particularly mind if I had done so. The words I used were "callous betrayal," and I stand by those words. I think every year that passes will make more evident the truth of my statement, and bring the people of Canada even more generally to the realization that I am right.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): If I might ask one question of the minister, is it intended that the report of the committee in connection with rehabilitation will be given to parliament before the recess?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): I cannot say with any certainty, but I expect a further report from that committee.

Mr. VICTOR QUELCH (Acadia): Mr. Speaker, I had not intended taking part in this discussion, but in view of some of the statements that have been made I believe I should say a word. We are continually hearing that the pension committee is a non-partisan committee. We would all like to see it so, but I think it is more correct to say that it is probably less partisan than any other committee. As a committee, of course, it is still partisan. I make that statement for this reason. I do not believe the report of the committee truly represents the feelings of the majority of its members. Why do I say that? For the very simple reason that when we are discussing matters of great importance in open session we find that a very large number of those on the committee are in favour of certain action being taken. But when we hold a meeting in camera we are told by the minister that he is agreeable to the committee going so far and no farther. Then we find that the viewpoint of many of these hon. members is moulded and changed to meet the stand taken by the minister.

Mr. GRAY: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I resent that imputation.

Mr. QUELCH: I don't care if you do resent it.

Mr. GRAY: I believe that every hon. member on the committee, whether it met in camera or in open session, had every opportunity to say what he believed. There was

no suggestion by the minister or anyone else as to what should be done by any member of the committee.

Mr. QUELCH: When the hon. member says the minister made no statement he is saying something that is not based upon fact. When we were discussing the question of the deadline—

Mr. GRAY: I suggest to the hon. member that he had the fullest latitude, as I had and as every other member of the committee had.

Mr. QUELCH: That is not a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The hon. member for Acadia has the floor.

Mr. QUELCH: The point I was emphasizing, to which apparently the hon. member objects, was that while we were discussing the bill in camera the minister said he could not agree to certain amendments; and the amendment I am referring to particularly was the amendment with regard to the deadline. Until the minister made that statement I believe we had a very good chance of bringing about that amendment. But just as soon as the Minister of Pensions and National Health said he would not agree to the deadline, we saw it was useless even to try to get it, because he was dominating the Liberal members in the committee.

Some hon. MEMBERS: No.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: Am I to understand the hon. member is telling me that I was dominated by anybody?

Mr. QUELCH: Without any hesitation I will agree that the hon. member refused, as one, to come into line with that ruling. He was one who would not agree to a unanimous report from the committee. But unfortunately he was only one of a larger number. I wish there had been more Liberal members who had taken the same stand as the hon. member for—

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: Fraser Valley.

Mr. GRAY: On a question of privilege, I do not intend to have the suggestion go out that any hon. member on the committee, whether he was the hon. member for Fraser Valley or the hon. member who has just spoken, did not speak his mind freely. There was no suggestion of domination by the minister. Every member had his views, and expressed them, the same as the hon. member who has just spoken.

Mr. QUELCH: I am not saying for one moment that every member of the committee, whether in camera or in open session, did not