

*Newfoundland*

Canadian forces and in allied forces. In the second world war, in the main, those who served from Newfoundland were enlisted in British units, mostly artillery, in the R.C.A.F. and in the Royal Navy. Of the veterans of world war I, those now living in Newfoundland and those who served on behalf of Newfoundland and who may now be living in other parts of the world, 1,103 are in receipt of pensions. That includes dependents. Of world war II, in the same category there is a total of 642 in receipt of pension at the present time. I might add that in world war II the pensions are paid by the British ministry of pensions. In both cases, however, it is the intention to bring these pensions up to the Canadian scale. It also appears that there may be others who may not be eligible under their present arrangements but who may qualify under our pension scheme. It is not yet possible to estimate how many that will be.

**Mr. Brooks:** Will any back pension be paid, or will the Canadian pension be paid as of the date of union?

**Mr. Gregg:** As of the date of union.

**Mr. Brooks:** The difference between the British pension and the Canadian pension will not be paid back?

**Mr. Gregg:** That is right. In the past Newfoundland has not had anything comparable to our war veterans allowances, and it has not been possible to make anything like an accurate estimate of how many applications there will be. It is presumed it might be about the same ratio as the maritime provinces, but that is only an estimate.

The next point is the Veterans Land Act. Those with whom we discussed the matter felt that under that act there would not be many applications for full-time farming. My hon. friend is right in saying that no cut-off date has yet been set under that act. It was expected that there would be some applications for small holdings, but that the main interest would be in commercial fishing. These applications will be received and considered, and it was undertaken that, in commercial fishing, those who had been assisted by the Newfoundland government to a lesser amount than that for which our act provides might be brought up to the full terms under our act.

**Mr. Brooks:** Were any representations made to have the three acres of land, as I believe the provision stands in the present act, reduced to one acre? I ask this question because we know that in the little fishing villages of Newfoundland land is scarce. In order for these veterans to come under the Veterans Land Act it would seem to me it

would be necessary to reduce the amount, as was done with respect to the Yukon last year?

**Mr. Gregg:** No. During the discussion that point was not raised either by the delegation or any of those who were advising them.

**Mr. Brooks:** I do not think the minister answered my question. In the present act there is a limit on the time in which students may make application. I presume it is the intention of the government to amend the act by changing the time limit to permit Newfoundlanders to come in. How much time are they to be given at college? Is a man to start his college course now, and have the five or six years necessary; or will he just finish out the college course which possibly some of the veterans have already undertaken at their own expense?

**Mr. Gregg:** As indicated in section 38, those benefits in existence on April 1, and from there on, will apply. So that with regard to all veterans under rehabilitation, including university and vocational training, veterans of world war II in Newfoundland would, after April 1, be in exactly the same position as veterans in Canada.

So far as vocational training is concerned, that is pretty well completed in Canada, with the exception of those veterans who may have been in hospital continuously. To take one example, there are veterans who have been in hospital continuously since the end of the war, but who have now finished treatment and are able to get out on their own. In such cases there is authority to approve entry into a vocational training school, or to approve university training. That of course will hold true in Newfoundland. So that, in vocational training, it was not expected there would be many who would qualify.

With respect to university training, Newfoundland has had a scheme of its own somewhat similar to ours. It is the intention that those who are in under that scheme as of April 1 might be picked up and carried on by the Canadian government under exactly the same terms as our own student veterans.

**Mr. Church:** I am wondering if these provisions in paragraphs (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) include the men of the merchant marine who advanced the supplies of food in the battle of the Atlantic. For example, I am thinking of the admiral of parliament hill, Admiral Duff—now in another place. He was born in Newfoundland. Those men of the merchant marine who were out night and day in the battle of the Atlantic were brave men, and they should be included. I believe some survey should be made to see how many there are.

There was a time when some of my friends to my left spoke about the other place being