£74m MORE HELP FOR WIDOWS

Child benefits raised: earnings rule eased

FAMILY ALLOWANCES FOR EXTRA YEAR

By M. R. ROYNS

Daily Telegraph Political Correspondent

IMPROVED benefits for widowed mothers were announced by the Prime Minister in the Commons yesterday. These will cost about £7,000,000 a year.

Certain child widows who were at a disadvantage because their husbands died before Nov. 4, 1958, will now be treated equally with other service widows. This will cost about £300,000 a year.

These decisions were warmly welcomed by Government supporters and received with rather grudging approval by the Opposition. With the General Election in mind, Mr. Wilson talked of the Government's having become "a little more forthcoming" at this late hour, after several years of resisting our proposals.

BROWN LOUD & CLEAR ON PENSIONS

By Peter RENNIE

WESTMINSTER TUNNEL: Mr. Hugh Gaitskell, the Shadow Chancellor, today attacked the Government's handling of the pensions issue. "There is a question of justice," he said, "in that while young men are fighting the war, the older men are waiting for pensions to become payable - 20 years old can go, 60 years old can't.

TALKING LOUDLY about the lack of speed in dealing with the pensions issue, Mr. Gaitskell declared that pensions were needed by people. The Prime Minister was always telling how he was not in a hurry to handle the pensions issue. People had to be kept waiting for years for their pensions.

Mr. Gaitskell said the Government were toReturn promises, and the present fight was about whether these promises would be kept.

GOVERNMENT HELP TO SPEED BUILDING

By John Donovan

A national building agency will be set up to speed the sale of council houses. The agency, to be known as the National Building Agency, will seek to speed up the sale of council houses by co-operating with local authorities and L.C.C.

The agency will be modelled on the civil service, and will be financed from the L.C.C. and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The agency will be responsible for the appointment of members of the board.

A second building agency, the National Housing Corporation, will be set up to manage the sale of council houses. The agency will be financed by the L.C.C., and will be responsible for the appointment of members of the board.

Mr. Donovan said that the National Housing Corporation would have the power to purchase new houses from building societies and private builders.

FOUR DROWNED IN CAR PLUNGE

By Peter RENNIE

Four people were drowned when the car they were in plunged into the River Thames at Teddington Lock. The car, containing a man and three women, was噢 the car was driven over the lock gates at Teddington Lock and fell into the lake. All four died at the scene.

The victims were identified as Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, aged 42 and 38, respectively, and two children, aged 8 and 10.

LATE NEWS

By John Donovan

CAMBRIDGE WIN 1941

Cambridge won the Allen University Cup, rights in the Cambridge University Press, 1941. It was the first time that the University has been able to offer a cup to the victorious side.

ERNEST PAUL CLIFT

Mr. Ernest Paul Clift, 82, has died in London. Mr. Clift was a well-known figure in the world of music and theatre. He was the founder of the Clift Theatre, and was a director of the London Music Hall and the London Palladium.

GALWAY GOES HOME

By Peter RENNIE

The last British troops to leave Ireland will return to Galway this week. The troops, who are stationed at the Curragh, will be flown back to Galway and then to Britain, where they will be demobilized.

US SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN F. KENNEDY ARRIVED IN LONDON

John F. Kennedy, the United States Secretary of State, arrived in London this morning to attend a conference on the Middle East. The conference will take place tomorrow.

KENNEDY STATUE BY A BRITON

From Our Own Correspondent

New York, October 25. The statue of President Kennedy, which was unveiled in Dublin last week, was created by the sculptor, Henry Moore. The statue was unveiled by the Prime Minister, Mr. John Major, and was dedicated to the memory of President Kennedy.