

As I explained in my remarks yesterday, the system which is in operation for unemployment insurance has been expanded to include workers not covered by that system. I imagine you have a card for that purpose; I have one and all the members of the house have them.

Mr. CANTELON: No, school teachers do not get them!

Miss LAMARSH: This is the card that will be used for the pension plan. We expect that card to be in English and French; and it may well be that on one side there will be something in connection with the Quebec pension plan and on the other side something in respect of the Canada pension plan, and it will depend upon the one to which you belong which side will be filled in.

Mr. GUNDLOCK: Madam Chairman, may I ask for just a short explanation? I know that the minister has probably not concluded on this, but I wonder if Miss LaMarsh could give us just a little of her thinking in relation to integrating the civil service into this plan.

Miss LAMARSH: Madam Chairman, I thought I also referred to that yesterday. We have an official of the Department of Finance, Mr. Hart Clark, who has been working on this almost from the beginning. I cannot explain the detail of it; I have asked him to explain it five or six times but I am not too sure that I can repeat it. He will be available to the committee if you would care to call him.

However, I can say in broad terms that the way the two plans are integrated will mean that the individual contributor does not pay more than he presently pays and that the pension which he receives will be slightly larger than it is currently under the superannuation.

In addition, I think Mr. Clark will confirm that the contributions made on behalf of the employer—that is the federal government—will be slightly less than they now have to make.

Mr. MUNRO: May I interject here?

At the steering committee yesterday the report read and it was not specifically set out in the report that—and the steering committee will recall this—it was decided that after the clause by clause study this whole area of integration in general and integration of civil service plans would be considered by this whole committee and that all the officials who had been working on it would be before the committee for that study. That procedure seemed to be acceptable.

Mr. CHATTERTON: Will the officials explain also, Madam Chairman, why the R.C.M.P. and the armed forces pensions were not integrated?

The CHAIRMAN (*Hon. Mrs. Fergusson*): Will that explanation be given by the officials?

I understand it will, Mr. Chatterton.

Mr. MONTEITH: I suppose I could ask this of the officials but it does seem to me to be a matter of policy and therefore I will put it to the minister.

I asked the question earlier, and yesterday Miss LaMarsh I think answered to the effect that the federal government were the only ones who had power to enter into agreements with other countries.

Miss LAMARSH: Yes.

Mr. MONTEITH: My real question is this. If Quebec asks for a reciprocal agreement with another country must the federal government undertake that?

Miss LAMARSH: There is nothing in the act which would require the federal government to do so. You will appreciate, Mr. Monteith, that the idea of this is that the Quebec and Canada pension plans will march together. I would assume if we entered into an agreement with another country we would enter into it on behalf of the Quebec pensioners as well.

Civil Service