

FINANCE ACT REPEAL BILL

SECOND READING

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved the second reading of Bill 111, an Act to repeal the Finance Act.

He said: The Bill merely repeals the Finance Act, 1927, which authorizes advances to be made to the banks on the security of certain bonds defined in that Act. Necessarily this provision will be inoperative on the assumed taking effect of the Central Bank Bill.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: My honourable friend might deal also with the second bill.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: The same explanation, in principle, applies to Bill 112, repealing the Act of 1915, which permits supplementary issue of Dominion notes for special purposes during the grain season. This issue will be a function of the Central Bank. Therefore the old Act falls into desuetude and will be repealed when the Central Bank functions.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: These bills are consequential on the passing of the Bank of Canada Bill. I would suggest the third reading be deferred until that bill is before us.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Of course, if the Central Bank Bill does not pass, these bills will never be called into effect. But the honourable gentleman's suggestion is quite satisfactory.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

DOMINION NOTES REPEAL BILL

SECOND READING

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved the second reading of Bill 112, an Act to repeal Chapter Four of the Statutes of 1915.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Is this similar to the other bill?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: This deals with the repeal of the statute of 1915 for the supplementary issue of Dominion notes. Naturally it will not become effective until the coming into force of the Central Bank Bill, to which my honourable friend looks forward with such pleasure.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

CANADIAN SEALING AND FISHERY INTERESTS IN PACIFIC WATERS

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. H. H. HORSEY moved concurrence in the report of the Special Committee with regard to the Administration of Canadian Sealing and Fishery Interests in Pacific Waters.

He said: Honourable members, the Special Committee on Sealing and Fisheries in Pacific Waters held several meetings. The proceedings have been printed. The report, based upon the evidence, has also been printed and, I believe, distributed. Without further comment at the moment, I move the adoption of the report.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I would suggest that its adoption wait until to-morrow. I have not yet had an opportunity of studying the report as fully as I should like.

The motion stands.

SHIPPING BILL

CONCURRENCE IN COMMONS AMENDMENTS

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved concurrence in the amendments made by the House of Commons to Bill E, an Act with respect to Shipping.

The motion was agreed to.

MESSAGE TO HOUSE OF COMMONS DEFERRED

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved that a message be sent to the House of Commons to inform that House that the Senate had concurred in the amendments to the Act with respect to Shipping.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I desire to draw the attention of honourable members to this situation. This Bill emanated from the Senate and was transmitted to the House of Commons in English and in French. The House of Commons has returned the English version with some amendments, but it has omitted to send us the French version. At first I thought it was withheld for the translation of the amendments, but I am now informed officially that it is being retained for correction. If the corrections are merely clerical, they can be made when the Bill is returned here; but if they are material they mean a new bill. I cannot understand why the Commons should retain the French version for correction. Do the contemplated corrections materially affect the Bill itself? The custodian of the two parchments is the Clerk of Parliaments, and it is important that the Bill should be returned to this House as amended