

## CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Acting Minister of Finance) moved that the House go again into committee on the following proposed resolution:

Resolved, that it is expedient to bring in a measure to provide for the superannuation of civil servants, to provide for contributions by civil servants to the consolidated revenue fund, to provide for payment out of the consolidated revenue fund to civil servants and to the widows and children of deceased civil servants of superannuation allowances or gratuities, and to provide for the making of regulations by the Governor in Council to give effect to the terms of the said measure.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Explain.

Mr. ROBB: The bill to be introduced will be based upon the recommendations of a special committee that had this matter under consideration at the last session of parliament. Hon. members will recall that that committee reported to the House on the 22nd of June last year, too late for consideration of the report at that session. On that occasion the Prime Minister promised that consideration would be given to the matter this session. We had hoped to bring down the bill a little earlier, but owing to the debate on the budget it has been delayed. It is now proposed that after the bill is introduced it shall be referred, with the concurrence of the House, to a special committee, possibly the same committee that considered the matter at the last session.

When the bill was first printed it was intended that it should come into force on the 1st of July this year, but as it has been somewhat delayed the committee may in their judgment change the date. That will be a matter for further consideration. I submit that the whole matter might very well be left to the committee.

Mr. MARCIL (Bonaventure): May I ask the minister whether the Calder Act is to be extended for another year? That is important in view of the fact that under this measure civil servants will be called upon to select either one plan or the other. The time is so short now that I think the Calder Act should be extended for another year.

Mr. GAUVREAU: Let this one pass first.

Mr. MARCIL (Bonaventure): Has any decision been arrived at on the subject?

Mr. ROBB: It has been suggested that after we have the report of the committee the Calder Act might be extended so as to carry on a little further. We will leave it to the committee to determine.

Motion agreed to and the House went into committee on the resolution, Mr. Gordon in the chair.

Mr. MEIGHEN: The minister said a moment ago that he was going to leave it to the committee to decide whether or not the Calder Act should be extended?

Mr. ROBB: No, I think my hon. friend misunderstood me. I said that the committee might consider it and that when we had their report we could discuss whether it was advisable to defer the Calder Act or to set forward the date upon which this act should come into force—perhaps provide that it should come into force the day following the expiration of the Calder Act; we might extend the Calder Act for six months or a year. We shall be able to determine that after the committee have considered the whole measure. We will see what progress the committee make and then the government will take the responsibility of fixing the date.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Can the minister give us the information that was asked for when we were previously in committee on this resolution, namely what is expected to be the annual cost to the country, or say the average cost for the first five years and the anticipated cost for the second five, or such periods as those for which the minister may have the information systematized?

Mr. ROBB: As my right hon. friend knows, the cost to new entrants will be 5 per cent of the payroll; the civil servants pay 5 per cent and the government pay 5 per cent, so it is impossible to determine exactly what the cost will be without knowing how many will transfer. It is estimated that if all transfer, the cost to the government will be about \$1,435,000 a year in respect of future service.

Mr. MEIGHEN: That would be the government's contribution to the fund?

Mr. ROBB: Yes.

Mr. MEIGHEN: That \$1,435,000 must be 5 per cent of the present civil service salary total?

Mr. ROBB: I imagine so.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Is that the case? If not, what percentage of the total does that \$1,435,000 represent? I apprehend it could not represent 5 per cent of the grand total, because certain of the civil servants are under other schemes. I presume the minister means that only those can come under this bill who are not under these other schemes. But, assuming that all come under this measure who are not under the other schemes, then the government's contribution will be \$1,435,000. Am I right in that?