

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: It will depend largely on the length of the session.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Take, for instance, this session, which has lasted 52 days.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Oh, no; 52 is the number of actual sitting days, but we have been over four months in session.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: There have been 52 sitting days this session. Three-quarters of that number would be 40.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: That is, in this Chamber; but there have been more sitting days in the House of Commons. The number must have gone away beyond that; it is in the nineties, I understand.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Three-quarters of the total number of sitting days being 40, there are left only 12 days.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: My honourable friend must keep in mind that the three-quarters applies to the sittings of the particular House of which the person is a member.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Yes. This is how I understand it will work out in the case of the Senate. It will be three-quarters of 52; that will be 40 days. Then there will be only 12 days over and above that.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Then there are the last two weeks.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: So the 15 days allowance will not amount to much.

Hon. Mr. FARRELL: Do not forget that.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: I would like to have some explanation of the latter part of subsection 2 of new section 35:

Except for calculating the number of days he attended a sitting of the House for the purposes of section 33, each day during the session on which there has been no sitting of such House in consequence of its having adjourned over such day shall be reckoned as a day of attendance at such session for every member who was in attendance at a sitting of the House on the day immediately before such adjournment.

Does that refer at all to the provision respecting three-fourths of the number of days? I do not quite understand it. A member must be here on the day previous to the day over which it has adjourned; otherwise he will not get credit for the days that the House is adjourned. This does not apply to the three-quarters clause?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: No.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: To what does it apply?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: It simply means this: that no absence shall be allowed for illness or other cause if a member was not here previous to the day of absence. Otherwise he might not be present during the session at all, and yet might come within the clause.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: He could not come within this section 35.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: The time must be counted from the day of attendance. It was the same under the old Act.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: This does not refer to the three-quarters clause?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: No.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: And does not refer to the two weeks.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: I do not understand the particular clause to which the honourable gentleman refers unless it is intended that the sitting days to be counted shall be the sitting days of the House of Commons. What is the object of these words?

Each day during the session on which there has been no sitting of such House in consequence of its having adjourned over such day shall be reckoned as a day of attendance at such session for every member who was in attendance at a sitting of the House immediately before such adjournment.

Days of attendance are not going to count at all in this, I understand; it will be only the sitting days that will count.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I must say that I do not understand the point that my honourable friend makes.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Take as an example the present session. The Senate has had 52 sitting days, and three-quarters of that number would be 40. The question of attendance, as I see it, does not come in. A member has to be here on the 40 sitting days in order to be entitled to the \$4,000.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Unless he is ill.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: I do not see how this paragraph that I have read regarding attendance works out.

Hon. Mr. POWER: It seems to me, honourable gentlemen, that subsection 2 of section 35 gives a chance to perpetuate what was undoubtedly an abuse. If a member of this House is present on Friday, we will