

allowances of the Speaker of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Commons, and the Deputy Speaker of that house.

I started to give a brief history of the salaries of the Prime Minister and members of the cabinet since confederation. In 1868 the salary fixed for the Prime Minister was \$5,000, and the same amount was set for every minister of the cabinet. In 1873 the Prime Minister's salary was increased to \$8,000, and that of other ministers to \$7,000. In 1907 the salary of the Prime Minister was increased to \$12,000, but the salaries of other ministers remained at \$7,000. In 1920 the present salary scale was established, that is, \$15,000 for the Prime Minister, and \$10,000 for the other ministers.

As to the salary of the Prime Minister, I think most honourable members of this house will agree that whoever happens to be the head of our government in Canada should receive a salary somewhat commensurate with his responsibilities.

Hon. Mr. Quinn: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: The bill before this house provides for an increase in salary for the Prime Minister. I am sure that honourable senators, and all members of the other house as well, will agree when I say we are fortunate in having Right Honourable Louis St. Laurent as Prime Minister of Canada at this time. Personally, I feel that on his world tour, by extending a spirit of good will to the people in the various countries he is visiting, he is probably doing more to bring about a better understanding among all peoples of the world than the billions of dollars that we have spent over the years on defence could ever be hoped to achieve.

Hon. Mr. Lambert: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I am sure that the messages from Canada he is conveying to those countries will encourage them and reassure them that we love peace and want to live at peace with them.

I wish to impress upon honourable senators that the purpose of the proposed salary increase is to provide not only the present Prime Minister, but his successors in office, with a salary to which we think the person holding that important position is entitled. It cannot compensate for all the duties he performs, but the intention is to bring his salary somewhere in line with that of other heads of government.

Honourable senators may be interested to know the salaries that are paid to some other heads of government. The Prime Minister

of the United Kingdom receives—as First Lord of the Treasury rather than as Prime Minister—a salary of £10,000 per annum.

Hon. Mr. Quinn: For life?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Yes; not only while in office, but for the rest of his life.

The President of the United States receives a salary of \$100,000 per annum, plus \$50,000 taxable expense allowance, plus a non-taxable travelling allowance not exceeding \$40,000.

Under the bill before us it is proposed to increase our Prime Minister's salary to \$25,000, which, though much lower than that of the President of the United States is approximately the same as that of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

Hon. Mr. Paterson: Is that \$25,000 taxable?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Yes, the salary of \$25,000 is subject to income tax.

Hon. Mr. Reid: May I ask a question? My information is that the Prime Minister and the cabinet ministers of Great Britain receive salaries, but no indemnity. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I have no information on that. The honourable senator from New Westminster (Hon. Mr. Reid) may be correct.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: There is no indemnity.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Oh, yes.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Of course, the parliamentary indemnity was considered in another bill. The present bill deals with salaries. The question that the honourable senator from New Westminster (Hon. Mr. Reid) put is an interesting one.

Hon. Mr. Reid: I think it is an appropriate question.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Yes; I think it is an appropriate question, and quite an interesting one. I followed the debate in the other house, and I do not think that question was raised. At any rate, this is the first time it has been brought to my attention. I had always assumed that the Prime Minister of Great Britain received an indemnity.

Hon. Mr. Reid: Lots of things have not been raised over there.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: That is right. I do not think it is necessary to say anything further respecting the Prime Minister's salary. I should like now to refer to the salaries of the other ministers, who at present receive \$10,000 a year. That salary was fixed in 1920, more than 30 years ago.