

*Canada Pension Plan*

(a) in the case of an employee to whom subsection (1) applies, within 30 days after the day fixed by proclamation under subsection (1);

(b) in the case of an employee to whom paragraph (a) of subsection (2) applies, within 30 days after the employee becomes so employed; and—

**An hon. Member:** Dispense.

**Miss LaMarsh:**

(c) in the case of an employee to whom paragraph (b) of subsection (2) applies, within 30 days after the employee reaches 18 years of age or becomes so employed, whichever is the later, require the employee to produce to him his social insurance number card and shall maintain a record of the social insurance number of each such employee.

(6) Every employee who is required by subsection (5) to produce his social insurance number card to his employer shall produce such card to his employer within 30 days after being so required.

That is the clause as passed by the committee one hour ago.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** Mr. Chairman, we have just had a display of ladylike arrogance. I would like to answer, for the benefit of the committee, a statement made by the Minister of National Health and Welfare a few moments ago when she said that social insurance numbers are not imposed by this legislation. Moments later the Minister of Labour rose in his place and said that in fact it was true that social insurance numbers were not compulsory when the U.I.C. initially brought out this program, but by reason of this legislation it is now compulsory.

**Mr. Benson:** That is right.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** The minister says that is right. I simply asked whether a man operating a one-man business in Canada is compelled under this legislation, or under the U.I.C. legislation, to obtain a number; and if he is not, is he compelled to comply with the regulations under the Canada pension plan?

There is something wrong with the statement made by the Minister of Labour, because a while ago a self-employed individual in Canada was not compelled to apply for a social security number, but he is under this legislation. Where is the clause in this legislation dealing with the compulsion?

**Mr. Benson:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to refer the hon. member to clause 100 (3), which says—and I will repeat what the Minister of National Health and Welfare has just said:

Every individual who is required by section 31 to file a return of his self-employed earnings—

20220—750½

**The Chairman:** Order, please. May I bring to the attention of the hon. minister that this clause has already been quoted.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** It has been quoted, Mr. Chairman. There is nothing in that clause that says it is compulsory to apply for a social insurance number. Where is the clause that says you must apply?

**Mr. Benson:** Mr. Chairman, with the permission of the committee I would requote this clause, which says just what the hon. member says it does not say.

**The Chairman:** Order, please. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre.

**Mr. Knowles:** Mr. Chairman, as I said when I tried to get the floor a few minutes ago, this is No. 604-515-148. Obviously I do not mind having my social insurance number, which I applied for voluntarily some months ago. I would like to say that it seems to me that a lot of unnecessary fuss is being made about the idea of having numbers to facilitate the operation of a scheme such as the Canada pension plan. Anyone in this house can go to any bank in this country and open a bank account, on one condition—he must accept a number to that account.

**Mr. Monteith:** You need some money.

**Mr. Knowles:** You can apply to any oil company in this country for a credit card, and it will have a number on it. You can get a driver's licence, and you are given a number. You can get a licence for your car, but it has a number. Even the motor of your car has a number. You can get a telephone if you wish, but you cannot be dialled by name; you have to have your number. If you want to get married in any province in this country, you have to get a licence or have the banns published. In either case there is a number. Some of us, as a matter of fact, have the right to marry—this is to be taken in two ways—and for that right we have a number. If you have property and register it at the land titles office in any province, you are given a number.

**Mr. Winkler:** Or when you go to jail.

**Mr. Knowles:** If you belong, as you must under the laws of this land, to a hospitalization scheme, you have a number. If you join one of the voluntary medical schemes, as I have—I am a member of the M.M.S. in Manitoba—you are given a number. If you go to hospital or to the doctor's office when you are sick, you have to produce that number to get in. If you want to get a passport and