

*Veterans Affairs***STATUTE LAW (VETERANS AND CIVILIAN WAR ALLOWANCES) AMENDMENTS ACT, 1974****AMENDMENTS RESPECTING ENTITLEMENT AND ALLOWANCES**

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-4, to amend the War Veterans Allowance Act and the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs.

On the order:

November 6—Mr. Marshall—The following proposed motion:—That Bill C-4, An Act to amend the War Veterans Allowance Act and the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act, be amended by deleting lines 1 and 2 at page 14 being Sub-clause 11(1) and substituting the following:

"11. (1)(a) Paragraph 31(3)(b) of the said Act is repealed and the following substituted:

"(b) who served in the United Kingdom during World War I for at least three hundred and sixty-five days prior to the 12th day of November, 1918: notwithstanding the foregoing requirements of this paragraph, a former member of His Majesty's Canadian forces who has served less than the minimal period so required but otherwise meets the requirements shall be deemed, for the purpose of authorization and payment of an allowance, to be a Canadian veteran of World War I save that the amount of the allowance, having been calculated as if the veteran has served in the United Kingdom at least three hundred and sixty-five days, shall be reduced proportionately to an amount calculated on the ratio that three hundred and sixty-five is to the number of days in fact so served."

(b) Paragraph 31(12)(b) of the said Act is repealed."

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Penner): The Chair has some doubt about this amendment. It would appear to go beyond the scope of the bill. There is some question whether it should be considered at this time.

Mr. William Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of my colleague, the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall), I wish to say a few words about this. Before he left he asked me to explain through you, to the House, that he does not want in any way to delay the passage of this very important piece of legislation which promises to do so much for the veterans of our wars. I respect the ruling of the Chair, and I feel that if the hon. member were here he would also realize the correctness of the ruling. As a matter of fact it was discussed at length in the committee.

I think perhaps there are some money items involved in the amendment. On behalf of the hon. member I respect your ruling, Sir, and withdraw the amendment on his behalf, in the hope that the bill will receive speedy third reading and be enacted into law, so that the calculations which are necessary to give effect to this legislation will be done speedily and the veterans will receive their cheques in due time.

I would also ask the minister to take notice of the intent of the amendment. While it goes beyond the scope of the legislation I hope the minister will put into effect the intent of the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe when he placed his amendment on the Order Paper.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Penner): The House has heard the request that the amendment be withdrawn. Is it agreed?

[Mr. Sharp.]

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Amendment withdrawn.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (for the Minister of Veterans Affairs) moved that Bill C-4, to amend the War Veterans Allowance Act and the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Sharp (for Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan)) moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

• (2140)

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, our attitude toward this bill is the same as the attitude expressed a moment ago regarding Bill C-22. We think both these bills are good and have had sufficient discussion. We are glad to see both of them given third reading tonight.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

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CUSTOMS TARIFF

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (for the Minister of Finance) moved that Bill C-27, to amend the Customs Tariff, be read the second time and referred to the committee of the Whole House.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Penner): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Mr. Jack Cullen (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to see such good legislation being expedited through the House. I hope we will have the same success with this bill, which may not capture the imagination of all hon. members but I hope it will capture the imagination of some.

The bill being considered by the House this evening is Bill C-27, which implements the proposed tariff reductions which were before the House at the conclusion of the last session. On October 3, 1973, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) tabled in the House a notice of ways and means motion proposing the temporary removal of the customs duties on certain petroleum products. These tariff changes are set out in Schedules III and IV to the bill.

On January 10, 1974, the minister tabled another notice of motion providing for the extension until June 30, 1974, and in some cases, until June 30, 1976, of most of the tariff reductions on consumer goods which he introduced in the budget of February 19, 1973. These extensions are listed in Schedules I and II to the bill.

These motions were combined without change in a new notice which he tabled in the House on March 1.

In the budget of February 19, 1973, the customs tariffs were temporarily reduced or eliminated on a broad range of consumer goods. These tariff reductions were an important part of a comprehensive program contained in that