

committee at the next sitting to consider the following proposed resolution:

That it is expedient to amend the Soldier Settlement Act for the purpose of reducing from seven per centum to five per centum the interest rate charged on certain repayments to the board of taxes and insurance premiums paid by the board in respect to soldier settlement lands in case of default on the part of the settler, and to provide further that the period during which payments of arrears or instalments at present subject to bonus privileges may be made, be further extended to the 31st day of March, 1941.

He said: His Excellency the Governor General, having been made acquainted with the subject matter of this resolution, recommends it to the favourable consideration of the house.

Motion agreed to.

WAR VETERANS' ALLOWANCES

EXTENSION OF ALLOWANCES TO INCLUDE CERTAIN OTHER CLASSES—ENLARGEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD

Hon. C. G. POWER (Minister of Pensions and National Health) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following proposed resolution:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the War Veterans' Allowance Act so as to extend the allowance payable thereunder to a class of veterans of the great war not presently the recipients of such allowances who, because of tangible or intangible disabilities and handicaps, are incapable of maintaining themselves; to include certain veterans of the South African war; to include among the classes of moneys non-deductible from allowance, pensions or grants accompanying certain military decorations; to provide for the avoidance of overlapping of benefits payable under the War Veterans' Allowance Act and those payable under the Old Age Pension Act, and to enlarge the membership of the war veterans' allowances board.

He said: His Excellency the Governor General, having been made acquainted with the subject matter of this resolution, recommends it to the favourable consideration of the house.

Motion agreed to.

FOREIGN POLICY

ATTITUDE OF CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AS TO BRITISH POLICY AFFECTING LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND RELATIONS WITH ITALY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. J. COLDWELL (Rosetown-Biggarr): In view of recent statements by the Prime Minister of Great Britain regarding the League of Nations, collective security and Italy, has the government of Canada been kept fully informed of the British foreign policy indicated by such statements, and if so, what

opinion, if any, has the government expressed on behalf of the Canadian people in relation to any or all of these matters?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): My hon. friend had advised me of his intention to ask this question.

The Canadian government has been furnished with full summaries of recent statements made in the British House of Commons by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and the former Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. In addition, it has received a brief report of a conversation with a representative of a foreign government. These communications, as is usually the case, are in the nature of information rather than consultation. The Canadian government has not offered any opinion on the statements in question.

EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION

INQUIRY AS TO TABLING OF FINAL REPORT

On the orders of the day:

Hon. H. A. STEWART (Leeds): I wish to ask the government and particularly the Minister of Labour (Mr. Rogers) whether the final report of the national employment commission has been laid on the table. If not, when may we expect it to be brought down?

Hon. NORMAN McL. ROGERS (Minister of Labour): I believe it has already been stated that it is the intention of the government to lay this report on the table as soon as it is printed and available in both languages. I expect that will be in the course of a very short time.

OPIUM AND NARCOTIC DRUG ACT

The house resumed from Thursday, February 24, consideration in committee of Bill No. 24, to amend the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act, 1929—Mr. Power.—Mr. Johnston (Lake Centre) in the chair.

Hon. C. G. POWER (Minister of Pensions and National Health): When the bill was last before the committee all clauses were passed, but the leader of the opposition made a suggestion which I have submitted to the officers of the department, and to which I think it is most reasonable that we should agree, namely, that the act should come into force on proclamation. I therefore move, seconded by Mr. Howe:

That this act shall come into force upon a date to be fixed by proclamation of the governor in council.

That will be section 11.