

the value of the property should go down, he would not suffer. He takes his chance on the value of the property going down or up. I really do not see how we could give him the benefit on the one hand when we have no means of making a subtraction on the other.

Section agreed to.

Bill reported with amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: When shall the Bill be read the third time?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Ordinarily I would not object to the third reading at the present time, but the hon. member for Quebec East (Mr. Lapointe) has been very much interested in this legislation and may wish to speak on the third reading.

Mr. SPEAKER: Next sitting of the House.

PENSION ACT AMENDMENT.

On motion of Hon. Arthur Meighen (Minister of the Interior) Bill No. 198, to amend the Pension Act, was read the second time, and the House went into committee thereon, Mr. Boivin in the Chair.

On section 1—"appearance of the injury or disease":

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Am I correct in understanding that this Bill is based entirely upon the recommendations of the committee?

Mr. CALDER: I was not present at many meetings of the committee when the matter of pensions was under consideration, but I understand this Bill went before the Pension Committee, every clause was very carefully considered and the whole Bill is approved by the committee.

Section agreed to.

On section 9—section 22 of the said Act is repealed.

Mr. POWER: This is the clause that has been amended in the Militia Act?

Mr. CRONYN: This is the same clause that has already been amended to-day in the Militia Act and the Mounted Police Act allowing a long service pension and a pension for disability to be paid.

Section agreed to.

On clause 10—no pension to children over age limit.

Mr. POWER: At the last meeting at which I was present, I was under the im-

pression that in certain of these clauses—I am not sure whether section 23 under clause 10 was one of them—the wording had to be changed, because it did not convey the exact meaning that the committee intended it to convey. Perhaps we are going through these clauses too rapidly.

Mr. CRONYN: I should like, of course, to have specific cases brought to my attention, but my understanding is that in every case the wording was changed to comply with the decisions of the committee.

Section agreed to.

On section 23—increase not exceeding \$180 annually between dependent parents of deceased member.

Mr. POWER: Subclauses (5), (6), (7) and (8) of subsection 4 of section 34 under this clause should be discussed together. This is the old question of the widowed mother which has been frequently brought up and which I have brought up in this House every year that pensions have been discussed.

Subclause (5) "widowed mother or dependent parents," makes these cases subject to review. That is to say, if a widowed mother is obtaining a pension at any time, the Board of Pension Commissioners may send a visitor, a representative of the board, to visit this widowed mother with regard to her income and the number of children she has who can contribute to her support, and this visitor can go into her financial and domestic affairs generally. A large number of complaints have, on different occasions, been brought before the House with regard to this.

Subclause (6) states that if a widowed mother has an unmarried son living with her, this unmarried son will be deemed, in the discretion of the Board of Pension Commissioners, to contribute to her support ten dollars per month, this ten dollars to be deducted from the amount of pension which would otherwise be allowed her. There are serious objections to this, the particular one being in regard to leaving to the discretion of the commission what amount earned by this son is considered sufficient by the commission. The other serious objection to which I will refer later is that I do not think the mother should be taxed in any way whatever on account of the fact that she has an unmarried son.

Subclause (7) states:

The pension to a widowed mother shall not be reduced on account of her earnings from personal employment or on account of her hav-