

You will recall that prevailing rates employees are mostly what we call trades people, whose rates of pay are based upon the prevailing rates of wages for that trade or skill in the community in which they are employed. They are not on a stated annual salary.

Q. I think for the purpose of their pay it is an annual lump sum divided into months. The monthly rate is figured on an annual basis and they are paid monthly.—A. In many cases, of course, they are paid on an hourly basis.

Q. Yes, but that hourly basis is for the year. It is lumped into so many days and they are paid monthly on that basis.—A. The minister has said he has asked his officials to go into this whole question and see whether it is possible to devise some scheme which matches prevailing practices in private industry in the same trades and skills. That is one line to pursue. There are various other possibilities or ways or means of trying to devise schemes which will fit the substance and the logic of the prevailing rates pattern.

Q. But I thought it was clear enough that there would be some action to be taken in that regard under the Superannuation Act?—A. I think I am justified in saying that as far as I am aware there is no present intention to use the power of the Governor in Council to blanket in all prevailing rates people, or even the majority of them.

Q. It could be done by the Governor in Council under the Act?—A. As far as I know there is no present intention of doing that. People who have long service are recommended and may be designated by the Governor in Council, and there are a few thousands who have been so designated.

Q. Is not this Act going to provide for that?—A. The minister said it was not intended to use this Act under its present form to change substantially the treatment of prevailing rates people.

Q. They will have no pension scheme, then?

Mr. McILRAITH: You have the authority now. A change was made in 1944 removing that limitation to the stated annual salary. It permitted you to bring them in on designation by an order in council. I think I am right in that. Now that right is continued now, so it is a matter of the government having authority to do it. It is a matter, if you like, of getting them to do it, but the legal authority is there. Now, as I understand it, after they are employed continuously—

The WITNESS: This bill makes no change in the present law or the present practice.

Mr. RICHARD: All we need is pressure!

The CHAIRMAN: If we have reached the end of that.

The WITNESS: If I may say so, Mr. Chairman, there are two other small verbal amendments: to section 30 (v) and section 35.

The CHAIRMAN: Could we have mimeographed copies and deal with those amendments when we come to the particular section?

The WITNESS: And in Schedule A, we inadvertently put the Atomic Energy Control Board under Part IV, whereas it should be under Part I.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, this is the time-table that is suggested: Wednesday afternoon Mr. Whitehouse of the Civil Service Federation of Canada will be here and make his presentation; Dr. H. A. Senn of the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada will also be here; and we would hope to conclude their presentations in one sitting.

Mr. McILRAITH: What about the Civil Service Association; are they presenting a brief?

The CHAIRMAN: I will come to them in a minute. On Wednesday evening we will hear the D.V.A. and the Legion and others interested in making special