

*Canada Pension Plan*

tion extends the requirement that people in Canada should have a social insurance number, because one must have a number in order to contribute under this plan.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** This brings up a most important point. Suppose I run a one-man business in any city in Canada, and I am not interested in the Canada pension scheme at all, can I refuse to participate in this scheme?

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** Well, where is the consistency in the argument? Ministers opposite say I do not have to apply for a number, and then I can apply for the pension scheme, but I cannot do that unless I have a number. Where is the consistency?

**Mr. Munro:** Might I call the hon. member's attention to the fact that the committee has already passed clause 100? Subclause (1) of that clause clearly states that those in pensionable employment are required to have a social insurance number. Subclause (3) sets out the provisions regarding social insurance numbers for the self-employed.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** I do not need a lecture from a junior member who is now sitting on the front bench.

**Miss LaMarsh:** May I suggest to the hon. member for Edmonton East that he should have been here for the last six days instead of coming here at nine o'clock on the sixth day?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** I regret to inform the Minister of National Health and Welfare that I know more about the scheme than she does. If she does not answer my question, I intend to pursue the matter.

**An hon. Member:** Filibuster.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** I refuse to yield the floor until one of the three ministers sitting opposite is able to answer my question.

**Mr. Knowles:** Mr. Chairman, this is number 604-515-148—

**Mr. Skoreyko:** I will resume my seat if one of the ministers rises and says he is not able to answer my question. On a question of privilege—

**The Deputy Chairman:** I am rising to acknowledge the question of privilege raised by the hon. member for Edmonton East.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** I asked a simple question of one of the three ministers sitting on the

[Mr. Benson.]

front bench. I wanted to know whether a man operating a one man business in any given city has a right to refuse to participate in the Canada pension plan—

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Skoreyko:** If he does not have the right to refuse to participate, it is compulsory to have a number. And is it compulsory to participate in the plan?

**Some hon. Members:** Yes.

**Miss LaMarsh:** I will be happy to clear this up for the benefit of the hon. member. I should like to read clause 100.

(1) Every individual who has reached 18 years of age on or before a day to be fixed by proclamation of the governor in council and who is employed in pensionable employment on that day shall within 30 days after that day, if he has not earlier been assigned a social insurance number, file an application with the minister, in such form and manner as may be prescribed for the assignment to him of a social insurance number.

(2) Every individual

(a) who has reached 18 years of age on or before the day fixed by proclamation under subsection (1) and who is not employed in pensionable employment on that day but thereafter becomes employed in pensionable employment, or—

**Mr. Skoreyko:** This is an obvious display of complete arrogance.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order. The Chair recognizes the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

**Miss LaMarsh:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(b) who reaches 18 years of age after the day fixed by such proclamation and is or becomes employed in pensionable employment on or after reaching that age, shall within 30 days after he reaches 18 years of age or becomes employed in pensionable employment, as the case may be, if he has not earlier been assigned a social insurance number, file an application with the minister, in such form and manner as may be prescribed, for the assignment to him of a social insurance number.

(3) Every individual who is required by section 31 to file a return of his self-employed earnings for a year, other than an individual to whom subsection (1) or (2) applies, shall on or before the 1st day on or before which he is required by section 34 to pay any amount as or on account of the contribution required to be made by him for that year in respect of those earnings, if he has not earlier been assigned a social insurance number, apply to the minister, in such form and manner as may be prescribed, for the assignment to him of a social insurance number.

(4) The minister shall, upon application by an individual to whom a social insurance number has not earlier been assigned, cause a social insurance number to be assigned to him and a social insurance number card issued to him.

(5) Every employer who employs an employee in pensionable employment shall,