

pose of determining the premium rate and it is more undesirable that different tables should be used to determine the probable mortality. This matter has been settled and it is too late to argue along these lines; all that we can hope for is that the provinces will agree that it is desirable that there should be a unified inspection, audit and control.

Mr. EULER: Perhaps I am dull of comprehension—

Mr. BENNETT: The hon. member certainly never has been.

Mr. EULER: —but I should like to know more definitely the mode of procedure with respect to these alien companies, the American companies, to be exact. We will suppose a United States company desires to do business in Canada, perhaps in only one province. I take it that its approach must first be made to the dominion Department of Insurance. Am I correct in that?

Mr. BENNETT: I will use the word "alien" in referring to the companies in order to make it clear. An alien company desires to transact business in Canada—I do not say in a province because that is not my purpose—so it must first of all come here and make good its status. Do I make that clear?

Mr. EULER: What does that mean?

Mr. BENNETT: That means that it registers, puts up its deposit and receives authority to carry on business.

Mr. EULER: Does it put up its deposit with the dominion department?

Mr. BENNETT: That is what we have provided for; this is done in order that it may have a local habitation and camp, in the words of the poet. What it shall do with respect to each province is determined by the province itself, we have nothing to say about that.

Mr. EULER: Supposing that at any time either the dominion or the province desires to cancel a licence; suppose, for example, that the dominion desires that a company should no longer do business in Canada, would the dominion have power to cancel a licence to do business issued by a province?

Mr. BENNETT: Undoubtedly, if the company in its returns indicated just cause and reason why there should be no continued recognition by the dominion of the status granted.

Mr. EULER: That would automatically cancel the licences given by the provincial inspectors?

Mr. BENNETT: That would be my opinion at the moment; I do not make a definite statement but that would be my gratuitous opinion to the hon. gentleman, it would have that effect. I shall try to make it a little clearer to the hon. gentleman because I do not wish to leave this matter in doubt if at all possible. Inasmuch as a non-Canadian and non-British company desires to come within the boundaries of Canada to do business, our view of the law is that it must register with the Dominion of Canada—I am using the word "register" in the broad sense—and it must meet our requirements by putting up a deposit. Having done that it receives authority, not to do business in a province but in recognition of its status having been created by its conforming with our law. After that, the making of returns merely continues the authority.

Mr. EULER: It cannot do any actual business without getting a licence from some province?

Mr. BENNETT: Some of the provinces may not require a licence, and that is a matter over which we have no control in view of the decision. In other words, Prince Edward Island may say: if the company has received a status from the dominion government, we are not concerned about a licence, all we are concerned about is to tax the company.

Mr. EULER: Who has the right of inspection, the dominion or the province?

Mr. BENNETT: I am not expressing an opinion, but in my judgment we have the right to know that there has been no alteration of the situation to impair the conditions which existed when we granted the status.

Mr. EULER: Would it not be desirable to have an understanding with the provinces in which this company might do business so that there would be no conflict of authority?

Mr. BENNETT: In that regard I can only repeat what I have said in this house so frequently, that I would regard it as desirable. I hope this and three or four other matters will be settled when the provinces and the dominion find time to get together for a discussion. Experience teaches that all constitutions are subject to change and that as the development of the construction of a written instrument proceeds it may be desirable to modify it by the considered and joint action of the parties affected, and I hope that end may be accomplished. That is my view, but others hold another view equally