

Civil Service Superannuation

There should be something to distinguish this from the Retirement Fund account.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: You might make it read:

To transfer to the Superannuation Fund hereby created.

Mr. MALCOLM: Yes, Superannuation Fund account.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: You are creating one now.

Mr. CHURCH: I call attention to section 19 which provides that any civil servant may at his option within one year after the date of the coming into force of this act elect to become a contributor, and so on. There are certain classes of civil servants who have not been on the permanent staff. For example, the postmen. Are they civil servants under the meaning of the act? They come under the old Retirement Fund I believe, and some are just temporary employees. Would they be affected by section 17 of the Superannuation Act? Are they officials under the meaning of this section, and the previous section, or under section 19? Would they come under the superannuation scheme? The superannuation is for members in good standing. Are they in good standing, and would they qualify under the new superannuation scheme? What is the status of those branch post office officials who have not a permanent position to-day?

Mr. ROBB: If my hon. friend will read section 17 he may find an explanation.

Mr. CHURCH: Has the Governor in Council power to interpret section 19 to take care of them?

Mr. MALCOLM: Does the ex-Minister of Finance (Sir Henry Drayton) think it would be satisfactory to strike out the words "consolidated revenue fund" and substitute therefor, "fund arising from this act."

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I think that would be all right.

Mr. CHURCH: I would like an answer to my question.

The CHAIRMAN: We are on section 16 and have not reached section 19 yet. The hon. member is out of order.

Mr. CHURCH: I was quite in order. Why was I not in order?

The CHAIRMAN: We are on section 16. [Mr. Malcolm.]

Mr. MALCOLM: I move that the words "consolidated revenue fund" in line 37 of section 16 be stricken out, and that the words "fund created under this act" be substituted therefor.

Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

On section 17—Periods of non-contribution.

Mr. ROBB: I desire to submit for the consideration of the committee a section to be designated as 17a, and I believe it will appeal to the judgment of hon. members of this House. The present Clerk of the House is 68 years of age. Should he avail himself of the provisions of the Superannuation Bill, he would of necessity retire at the end of two years at age 70. His annual allowance would then be about \$960 per annum. Should he not avail himself of the provisions of the bill, but continue to contribute to the Retirement Fund, no adequate retiring allowance would be provided by his interest in that fund.

It is considered fitting that more adequate provision should be made for his retirement and my amendment is suggested to provide for an allowance of \$2,500 payable annually throughout life on his retirement within two years from the coming into force of this act.

This allowance is the same as that granted to the former Clerk, the late Dr. Flint, upon his retirement in 1918.

I beg to move the addition of the following as subsection 17a.

The Governor in Council may within two years from the date of the coming into force of this act provide for the retirement of the present Clerk of the House of Commons, and may grant to him on retirement an annual allowance payable throughout life of \$2,500.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I do not rise to object to the motion at all, but to make a few short observations. One of the ideas of superannuation and retirement ought to be economy. If the Clerk of the House avails himself of this pension, I see no reason why we should have a Clerk and a Clerk Assistant. I see no reason why Mr. Beauchesne could not do all the work. He knows the work to be done perfectly well and is familiar with both languages.

An hon. MEMBER: He might be ill.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I do not think there would be much difficulty in that event. He could arrange for someone to take his place if he were ill. Here is a chance to save a little money.

Mr. MACLEAN (York): And recognize a good servant.