

Mr. NEILL: Perhaps the first part of the motion could be amended by substituting the words "British Columbia" for the word "Canada." That would narrow down immensely that part of the motion. It will be noted that the other questions are limited to British Columbia.

Mr. BENNETT: The work will be the same.

Mr. NEILL: I move that the word "Canada" in the fifth line be struck out and the words "British Columbia" substituted therefor.

Motion as amended agreed to.

EASTER RECESS

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister) moved:

That when this house adjourns on Thursday, the 13th of April, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, the 18th of April, 1933.

He said: I may say that in preparing this motion the government was acting upon the apparent general approval of the house which was voiced the other day. The government has no hard and fast idea in proposing this motion and I should be glad to have any suggestions the house desires to make as to whether or not these dates should be adhered to.

Mr. MARCIL: Quite often the house has adjourned at six o'clock on Wednesday evening in holy week.

Mr. BENNETT: I made inquiries with respect to that and I was told that Thursday was a day upon which we might work, that it was not a day of obligation. I am entirely in the hands of the house with respect to the matter.

Mr. MARCIL: It is not a day of obligation.

Mr. DUFF: I would not mind if the house sat on Sunday.

Motion agreed to.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

PAYMENTS BY PROVINCES—DISPOSITION OF EXTRA EARNINGS—PENSIONS

Hon. HUGH GUTHRIE (Minister of Justice) moved the second reading of Bill No. 58, to amend the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I find that I was in error in making a statement during the discussion of the resolution upon which this bill was founded. This statement was in

[Mr. Bennett.]

connection with the estimates for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and after going over the matter with the commissioner of the force I find that while the item on page 49 of the estimates of \$5,615,595.75 represents as far as it is possible to estimate what will be actually expended upon the force during the current year, there is a clause in the bill which provides that the payments made into the consolidated revenue fund by the provinces may be utilized from time to time by the police force as they may be required. This is intended more as an emergency provision than otherwise. Last year the vote fell short of meeting the needs of the force because of the fact that some three hundred additional recruits had to be taken on last autumn. Consequently, in the supplementary estimates we asked for an allowance of the money which had been paid into the consolidated revenue fund by the provinces, and this was granted. The explanatory note to section 1 reads:

The purpose of the amendment is to empower the governor in council, in case of emergency or other special circumstances, to authorize the utilization of the moneys in question for the use of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

It is hoped that the vote asked for in the present estimates will be sufficient for all purposes, but without desiring to be an alarmist, I must inform the house that in the opinion of the commissioner, the situation existing at the moment in various parts of Canada with regard to communistic activities is not at all satisfactory. These activities have not been lessened during recent months. I regret to say that we have information that the communist party in all its ramifications in various parts of Canada is perhaps more active and dangerous to-day than it has been at any time in recent years. Developments have taken place in the far west on the Pacific coast, throughout the prairie provinces, in Ontario, and very recently in Quebec, which may call for some further increase in the force in case anything like an actual outbreak occurs. As I say, I do not wish to be an alarmist in regard to such matters, but it is always well to be prepared and the officers of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have informed me that they have made certain preparations to deal with situations that may arise. It is true that in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police force can act only when its services are requested by the municipal police or by the authorities of a province, but it is at all times in the closest cooperation with the municipal and provincial police forces and ready to offer its services should they be required. Should an increase become necessary