

Civil Service Superannuation

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Yes; that is correct.

Section as amended agreed to.

On section 5—Treasury board direct payment in certain cases.

Mr. MICHAUD: I move:

That section 5 be amended by striking out the words "first day of October, 1944" where they occur and substituting therefor the words "15th day of August, 1944".

Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

Section 6 agreed to.

On section 7—Right to elect to become contributors.

Mr. MICHAUD: I move:

That section 7 be amended by striking out the words "first day of October, 1944" where they occur, and substituting therefor the words "15th day of August, 1944".

Mr. KNOWLES: I take it there are no exceptions at all in the provisions of this section? Any civil servant under the old act may transfer within a year after August 15 without any restriction?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Yes; that is correct. It is intended to give a full year from the time the act comes into force, to anyone who is in the retirement fund and who wishes to transfer to the superannuation fund. He transfers automatically what he has in the retirement fund, and that pays his contribution up to date in the superannuation fund.

Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

On section 8—Funds transferred to superannuation account.

Mr. MICHAUD: I move:

That section 8 be amended by striking out the words "first day of October, 1944." where they occur and substituting therefor the words "15th day of August, 1944."

Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

On section 9—Right to elect to become a contributor.

Mr. MICHAUD: I move:

That section 9 be amended by striking out the words "first day of October, 1944," where they occur and substituting therefor the words "15th day of August, 1944."

Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

Section 10 agreed to.

[Mr. Knowles.]

On section 11—Coming into force.

Mr. MICHAUD: I move:

That section 11 be amended by striking out the words "first day of October, 1944," where they occur and substituting therefor the words "15th day of August, 1944."

Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Golding in the chair.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

357. National research council—salaries and other expenses of the national research council, \$920,529.

Mr. KNOWLES: Before we deal with this item, would the Minister of Mines and Resources give consideration to the suggestion I made a moment ago—I do not know whether he was in the house—namely, that so far as possible the page boys be given time off tomorrow afternoon and evening and the remaining Saturdays of the session? I think we could get along with a skeleton staff.

Mr. CRERAR: That is a matter for Mr. Speaker and not for the government. I have no doubt His Honour will take note of my hon. friend's suggestion.

Mr. NEILL: I suggest that the members be given time off from six o'clock. That is always done, but at the last minute.

Mr. GARDINER: If we get through tonight we may be through at six o'clock.

Mr. PERLEY: Will the minister explain the increase in this item?

Hon. J. A. MacKINNON (Minister of Trade and Commerce): The increase in the item is due to increased work and increased staff.

Mr. PERLEY: The details on page 193 of the estimates show a decrease in the staff. In 1943-44 the total was ninety-three; in 1944-45 it is eighty-eight.

Item agreed to.

358. Expanded research on the utilization of farm crops, \$325,000.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): I have always been interested in this particular work and I notice that this is the first time we have had an appropriation for it. When the estimates of the Minister of Agriculture were up I asked him what we were doing in this connection.