Pensions

## PENSIONS

CORRELATION OF VARIOUS PLANS WITH CANADA PENSION PLAN

The house in committee on Bill C-193, to amend the Public Service Superannuation Act, the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act, the Defence Services Pension Continuation Act, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superannuation Act, the Diplomatic Service (Special) Superannuation Act, the Intercolonial and Prince Edward Island Railways Employees' Provident Fund Act and the Canadian Corporation for the 1967 World Exhibition Act-Mr. Benson-Mr. Batten in the chair.

The Chairman: May I point out to the committee that there are some amendments to the French version. These amendments are printed in Votes and Proceedings of June 22 at page 685.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that the amendments be adopted now.

On clause 2.

Mr. Benson: Mr. Chairman, I might point out to the committee that I have several amendments with which I could deal either at the beginning of the proceedings or on the clauses as we go along. These amendments are a result of a recommendation of the joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons with regard to appeals to Treasury Board in the case where the Minister of Finance is empowered by the legislation to make particular decisions. I would be prepared to move these amendments at this time or wait until we reach the various clauses.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): I suggest it might be done when we are considering the various clauses.

Mr. Knowles: Mr. Chairman, I think that is the sensible way to do it. The minister might like to indicate to us in a general way what they are, but I think we should follow the usual practice of making the amendments when we are on the particular clauses. Perhaps you, Mr. Chairman, might tell us the numbers of the clauses which have been amended by the action of the joint committee.

The Chairman: I think it might be better practice to amend the clauses as we come to them. As we come to a clause which is to be amended I will so indicate.

Mr. Knowles: Could you tell us the numbers of those clauses now?

[Mr. Churchill.]

The Chairman: I might read from the Votes and Proceedings of June 22. The report of the committee said this?

Your Committee has agreed to report the said bill with the following amendment:

Amend the French version of the said bill by striking out the words "service public" and substituting therefor the words "fonction publique" in the title and wherever those two words appear in the said French version of the said bill.

• (7:40 p.m.)

Mr. Knowles: Mr. Chairman, I was aware of that; I was a member of the committee. But I thought by this time someone would have a list for us of the numbers of the clauses where we do this.

The Chairman: Perhaps we could have a list made at the table while the hon. member for Carleton is taking part in the debate.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Chairman, this bill has been very carefully considered by a joint special committee of the Senate and House of Commons under the distinguished Commons chairmanship of the hon. member for Ottawa East. Therefore the comments which I want to make of a general nature will be very brief indeed. I only want to say that the bill is less than adequate in a number of features: First, in that it has no escalation clause. The principle of escalation was accepted in the Canada Pension Plan and it is the submission of those of us on this side that it ought to be accepted in the superannuation acts.

Second, there is no provision for increases to retired civil servants. I do not propose to discuss this at all tonight, but would mention to the Minister of Finance that his estimates will not have an easy course through this committee until that issue is settled. Third, I think it is clear that many public servants will suffer as a result of the integration of the superannuation acts and the Canada Pension Plan, particularly in two respects. The present civil servant who has a vested right to his full pension, whether or not he accepts employment after age 65, will now suffer a diminution in his pension by .7 per cent per annum, the amount of his Canada Pension Plan contributions, if he takes any employment after retirement.

I think this is a breach of faith. At this late date I do appeal to the minister to have a change of heart in this respect. I do suggest that here is a complete breach of contract. and certainly a breach of faith, in relation to those who are now in the public service. Second in this respect, there is under this bill a substantial increase in contributions. At the present time a male civil servant contributes