

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, April 16, 1951

The house met at three o'clock.

CUSTOMS ACT

AMENDMENTS TO CLARIFY ACT AND TO FACILITATE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 198, to amend the Customs Act.

Mr. Knowles: Explain.

Mr. McCann: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the changes set out in this bill is to clarify certain sections and to lay down certain procedures which will facilitate both the administration and enforcement of the act.

Mr. Knowles: Will the minister explain the explanation?

Mr. Abbott: The explanation is very clear and concise.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

INCOME TAX DIVISION—EMPLOYEES DISMISSED

Mr. Bryce:

1. Have any employees of the income tax division been dismissed from January 1, to March 31, 1951?
2. If so, how many?

Mr. McCann:

1. Yes.
2. Five.

DEFENCE PRODUCTION—SYNTHETIC DETERGENTS

Mr. Lennard:

1. Has the Department of Defence Production placed any orders for synthetic detergents?
2. If so (a) when; (b) in what quantities; (c) with whom were the contracts placed?

Mr. McIlraith:

1. No.
2. Answered by No. 1.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE—SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFITS

Mr. Knowles:

1. How much money was paid out in the form of supplementary unemployment insurance benefits (a) in 1950; (b) in 1951?
2. How much money has been paid into the unemployment insurance fund earmarked for the payment of supplementary benefits?

Mr. Gregg:

1. (a) To December 31, 1950—	
classes 1 and 2	\$2,761,402.86
classes 3 and 4	
(less refunds to March 31/51)	1,791,483.95
Total	\$4,552,886.81

(b) In 1951, to March 31—	
classes 1 and 2	\$3,168,046.66
classes 3 and 4	27,877.55
Total	\$3,195,924.21

2. (a) The fund has been credited from appropriations with \$1,791,483.95, the amount paid to classes 3 and 4 for the period February 28 to April 15, 1950, in accordance with section 87F(1) of the act.

(b) As from July 3, 1950, the sum of one cent per day was added to the contributions payable by employers and employees to provide supplementary benefits for classes 1 and 2. This additional contribution is included in the regular stamps, meter impressions and bulk payments and is not specially earmarked in the accounts of the commission. In accordance with the statute, the amount received up to March 31, 1952, will be determined, and if the amount expended exceeds the amount received from this additional contribution the fund will be reimbursed from moneys provided by parliament.

Note: Classes 1, 2, 3 and 4 are described in section 87 (b) of the Unemployment Insurance Act.

CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION

Mr. Balcom:

1. Was any amount added to the superannuation fund by direct vote of the government during the past twelve months?

2. If so, what amount, and what effect did it have on present paid retirement allowances?

Mr. Sinclair:

1. Yes.

2. \$6,831,261.95—vote No. 103, main estimates, 1950-51; \$75,000,000—vote No. 587, further supplementary estimates (2), 1950-51.

These payments will not have any effect on allowances presently being paid. See page 1395 of *Hansard*, March 19, 1951, for explanation of \$75,000,000 item.