

retains title pending the completion by the settler of the payment of balance of the purchase price thereof, or on which the Board has a charge, lien, or other encumbrance as the result of any advances made to the settler pursuant to the provisions of this Act, the Board's right, title and interest in such live stock shall be released by the Board in favour of the settler; provided that such release shall in no way relieve the settler from the payment by him to the Board of the balance of the purchase price of such live stock remaining unpaid together with accrued interest, or from the repayment of any amount secured by a lien, charge or other encumbrance against such live stock; provided further that no such release of title shall be made in favour of the settler where the settler has with the Board's consent assigned his interest in such live stock to another party to whom the Board is obligated to deliver clear title upon the fulfilment by such party of certain obligations to the Board.

The principal enactment of the Bill has to do with the remission to the settler of 30 per cent of his indebtedness, provided that it does not make him a creditor of the State.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: The Bill is not printed.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: I have a copy.

Hon. Mr. FORKE: This means an expenditure of probably \$10,000,000 or \$11,000,000.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: Most of us have not received copies of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: It seems to me, honourable gentlemen, that a Bill of this character should go to committee. We have not the slightest idea what it means or what the effect of it will be. As I understand it, notwithstanding the fact that a year or two ago we set up machinery whereby returned soldiers who had gone on the land were given the fullest opportunity to have their debt decreased, and that work has been going on at a cost of millions of dollars to the country, the Bill now makes a blanket provision to reduce the indebtedness of every returned soldier by 30 per cent.

At least we should have an opportunity of getting in touch with some of the officials of the Department, in order to find out how many people are interested and what sum of money is going to be involved. I have not even seen the Bill, and to ask us to deal with it in this cursory way at this time is very unreasonable indeed.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: Could we not send it to the Committee on Banking and Commerce to-morrow?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I will simply move the **second reading**. We can then send it to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND

Hon. Mr. FORKE: This is very drastic legislation. There is a great deal entailed in the carrying out of the provisions of this Bill. I think it would be well for members of the House to know exactly what remissions have been made to soldier settlers and something of their present condition. I am somewhat familiar with this subject, and I think the Senate should be well informed as to what has taken place in regard to soldier settlement work in the Dominion. I cannot estimate the amount involved, but I know the present indebtedness will amount to a very considerable sum.

Furthermore, there is something here—I have not had time to read it—in regard to releasing liens on live stock. I know this Bill has received a great deal of attention from the committee of the other House. It is the result of their consideration, and probably it will be found to be all right. But a large sum of money is involved, and I think the Senate should be informed of just what is entailed.

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: Probably we can have some officers of the Department present at the committee meeting to inform us just what the cost will be.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL

FIRST READING

Bill 345, an Act to amend the Customs Tariff.—Hon. Mr. Dandurand.

SECOND READING

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND moved the second reading of the Bill.

He said: I am quite sure that every honourable member of this Chamber is familiar with the general purport of the amendments that have been made to the Customs Tariff, Chapter 44 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927. I do not think it is necessary to go through the hundreds of items that are printed in the Bill. If any honourable member desires an explanation in regard to any particular item, I suggest that he so state. I do not think it is necessary that the House should go into Committee of the Whole on the Bill, unless honourable members desire to examine some of the clauses in detail. I place myself in the hands of the Senate in this matter.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Is there any objection to giving the third reading now?