

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Would a branch not be covered by the incorporation of the mother society? It is a part of the whole.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: I think it would be covered. So far as we in the province of Quebec are concerned, we have a means whereby, without any cost at all, the clubs can be incorporated by the municipality.

Hon. Mr. COTE: How would it be to say, "incorporated or constituted either by agreement or under local incorporation"?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: You are loosening the guarantee which the word "incorporated" gives.

Hon. Mr. COTE: Not to a very great extent, because it would have to be a bona fide social club before it would be entitled to the protection of the amendment.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I am told that a club may be a bona fide social club and yet be carrying on a racket. I think we should try the clause as it is.

Hon. Mr. COTE: You do not get my point. I am rather helpless, because I have not a copy of the amendment before me. Would this be satisfactory: add after the words "social club" the words "or branches or councils thereof"?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I have no objection to that.

Hon. Mr. COTE: I move that after the words "social club" the words "or branches thereof" be added.

The amendment was agreed to.

Section 12, as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble and the title were agreed to.

The Bill was reported, as amended.

THIRD READING

On motion of Hon. Mr. Dandurand, the Bill as amended was read the third time, and passed.

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE REPORTS

SENATE EMPLOYEES

Hon. G. V. WHITE presented, and moved concurrence in, the sixth report of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I am not going to object to the report, but I do wish to comment upon the continual growth of the scale of remuneration. It is very easy to keep

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raising that scale and apparently very difficult to bring it down. It would seem that the only practical course is to leave things where they are.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I do not recall whether my right honourable friend is a member of the committee.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I may be, but I could not get to its meeting.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I am a member of the committee, and I confess I too was unable to attend its sitting. Perhaps the Senate itself should sometimes look into its accounts early in the session and adopt a policy which could be carried out by the Internal Economy Committee. It is true that the Senate has the right to deal as it sees fit with the committee's reports, but often it is difficult to intervene and alter any recommendation made by the committee, which has had the advantage of receiving first-hand information on the subject concerned. I am not at all intending to criticize, but I believe that these reports are presented a little late in the session, when there is very little time left for members to examine them.

Hon. Mr. HARDY: May I ask the chairman of the committee (Hon. Mr. White) whether he can give us any reasons for the recommended increases? It is a regular occurrence to have similar reports presented at the end of every session, but, thinking back over a period of some fifteen years, I cannot recall having ever heard any explanations for such increases. They may be based on statutory requirements or long service, but, whatever the fact is, we do not know it.

Hon. Mr. WHITE: I can assure honourable members that the committee gave the fullest possible consideration to these matters. We had a number of applications for increases which were not granted. The committee felt that where increases had been recommended they were justified by the merit of the respective employees.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Is the explanation satisfactory?

Hon. Mr. HARDY: Just about as satisfactory as answers we get to any other requests for explanations of recommended increases in pay. In other words, it is not satisfactory at all.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Of course, it would be somewhat unjust to make general declarations concerning a number of increases, some of which may be of a petty nature and quite acceptable to the House. I imagine that