

Canada Pension Plan

scholarships be chargeable under the Canada pension plan?

Mr. Benson: If they are employed in pensionable employment and have earnings beyond the exemption, they will have to contribute.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, clause 103, with which I suppose we are still dealing, provides for one numbering system for pension purposes for the whole of Canada, does it not?

Mr. Benson: Clause 103 contains authority for an agreement whereby numbers accumulated or issued by the federal government may be turned over to a province which is outside of the scheme. It envisages a single numbering system for Canada and the right of the federal government to turn over the numbers to the provinces which are not within the legislation for their use.

Mr. Alkenbrack: A supplementary question. With all its dubious effects, does clause 103 now give the federal government the power to compel the province of Quebec or any other opting out province to accept this numbering scheme? That is what I want to know.

Mr. Benson: Mr. Chairman, this is a matter which we have been discussing for almost two hours now and I think the question raised by my hon. friend has been answered several times.

The Chairman: The hon. member for Mégantic.

Mr. Alkenbrack: A supplementary question, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: The hon. member for Mégantic. The hon. member may ask his question when he is recognized again by the Chair.

Mr. Langlois: Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask one of the ministers, probably the Minister of Labour since we asked the same question last year, as to what the situation will be with regard to lumbermen who work in the United States. How is the government ever going to get their contributions if they have a United States employer and have to leave Canada to earn their living? Are they going to be able to come back here and get a pension? How are you going to get over that difficulty? They are residents of Canada but they go across the border for four, five, six or seven months to earn their living in lumber camps. How are you going to

solve the problem or are they going to be in the same fix they are now with regard to unemployment insurance?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Chairman, the persons to whom my hon. friend refers are not, as he realizes, supported by a reciprocal arrangement with the state of Maine, and accordingly they normally do not receive unemployment insurance, so we do not register them under the Unemployment Insurance Act. But there is no apparent difficulty in registering them for the Canada pension plan if they are contributing under the plan.

Mr. Langlois: How are you going to get the employer's contribution if it is an American employer?

Mr. Benson: If an individual is employed in the United States, we certainly have no method in Canada of covering him under the Canada pension plan. He is presumably required to pay under the social security scheme in the United States. This is a scheme whereby we collect from employers. The only provision we have for collecting from employers outside of the country who employ people in Canada is if we enter into an agreement under clause 7 of the bill whereby an employer will agree to contribute to the Canada pension plan.

Mr. Langlois: This does not solve the problem if the employer does not want to contribute. These people are still residents of Canada, their families are still here and they have to have social insurance numbers. These numbers are compulsory in so far as these families are concerned, but they will not receive any benefit from this pension plan.

Mr. Benson: They would only have to apply for social insurance numbers if they were employed in Canada. If they are employed in the United States they would be covered by the social security system in the United States. If my hon. friend is speaking about people who work part of the year in Canada and part of the year in the United States, they would, for the part of the year they are employed in Canada, if they earn more than the basic exemption of \$600, be required to contribute under this Canada pension plan, to have a number, and would reap the benefits of the Canada pension plan based on their employment in Canada only.

Mr. Langlois: May I ask a supplementary question? How does the Minister of National Revenue proceed in the case of income taxes? These employees who are working in the