

shall be done in the matter of caring for disabled war veterans and their dependents, and that whatever is done shall be done in a manner worthy of the part which they have played and worthy of the country which they have served so well.

My hon. friend made some reference to the commissions which have been appointed, and to their reports, as mentioned in the speech from the throne. He inquired if there was to be legislation based on the reports of the commissions. With regard to the report of the radio commission, I may say that a bill will be introduced based upon that report. The subject of radio broadcasting and its control is a very large one, and some of these questions, I believe, are best dealt with in the first instance by a committee of parliament. Some of these questions present much in the way of technical consideration, of which it is difficult to have full account taken in debate. We believe that the radio broadcasting question is of that type, and we consider that it would be advisable, when the legislation is introduced, to have a special committee of this house appointed to consider it.

With regard to the report of the commission investigating the salaries of professional and technical civil servants, of which Mr. E. W. Beatty was the chairman, that report will be laid on the table of the house tomorrow. It would have been tabled to-day but the press suggested that it would perhaps receive more in the way of the publicity which it merits if the tabling were held over for a day. I might direct the attention of my hon. friend to the fact that the government received the report only a few days ago, and there has not yet been time to give to it the study which it deserves. It was therefore not possible, at the time the speech from the throne was drafted to indicate what legislation, if any, would be based upon it. I do not hesitate to say to my hon. friend that when the government appointed a commission to deal with this matter it did so with the hope and expectation that the report of the commission would serve as a guide for legislation, and I do not think there is any doubt that legislation based upon the commission's report in whole or in part will be introduced at the present session of the house.

As to the report on certain phases of the operation of Dominion legislation and merchant shipping, which was laid on the table and in respect to which my hon. friend says certain words were omitted in the reference made to it in the speech from the throne, I would like to assure my hon. friend that there was no sinister motive in leaving out the words "for your consideration." My hon. friend's

long training as a lawyer has I fear, given him a fondness for hair-splitting and on occasions a tendency of seeing things that no one sees but himself. If in this instance the speech from the throne had contained the words "for your consideration", after the word "submitted", I am inclined to think my hon. friend in his critical frame of mind and going over the speech as he did with a fine-tooth comb, would probably have told us he had found that twice already in the speech from the throne it had been said that a report was going to be submitted "for consideration," and he would have asked for what other purpose the report could have been submitted. That is what he would have said. That of course was the only purpose for which the report was to be submitted.

I have in my hand a copy of the report and copies will be distributed immediately. I think my hon. friend wished to know whether the house would be given any opportunity of discussing the report. I would like at once to assure him and the hon. member for St. Lawrence-St. George (Mr. Cahan), who, I know, is especially interested in this, that ample opportunity will be given for a discussion of it; indeed the government will welcome the fullest discussion. May I give one other assurance which probably my hon. friends will wish to have? I understood my hon. friend to ask whether there would be at Westminster legislation based upon this report before this parliament had an opportunity of pronouncing upon its recommendations. If that was the question I would answer that this house will be given an opportunity to approve the recommendations before any legislation with respect to them is enacted at Westminster. I think that ought to make our position clear with respect to this commission's report.

My hon. friend did not take up at this stage, and I think very properly, the matters in the report, but he did have a word to say in regard to Canada's status. Some way or another he seems unwilling to concede that there is such a thing as equality of status between the dominions themselves and Great Britain. This afternoon he said there can be no such thing as equality of status as long as we have to go to Westminster to amend our constitution. If that were due to any action on the part of the government at Westminster of a character which was restrictive so far as this parliament was concerned, then I would say there was something to the point which my hon. friend raises. But in this matter there is no limitation whatsoever due to us from Westminster. My hon. friend knows