

Mr. C. J. DOHERTY moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 44, for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending March 31, 1920.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first and second time, considered in Committee and reported.

On the motion of Mr. Doherty for the third reading of the Bill:

Mr. DENIS: Before this Bill is read the third time, I should like to be informed whether it is not customary to have these Bills printed and distributed amongst the members before they are passed.

Mr. DOHERTY: As far as my experience goes, I do not think I can recall a time when the proceedings were stopped to permit of distributing a Bill of this kind, because there is absolutely nothing in the Bill except Supply that has already been dealt with, and we are quite in accord with the usual practice in what we are doing.

Mr. DENIS: I quite understand that the Bill is to give effect to the resolution which has just been passed; but it seems extraordinary to me that the Bill should be passed through the House without the members having any knowledge of its contents or without being physically able to have the Bill in their hands in order to see what there is in it. I am not opposing the Bill at all.

Mr. SPEAKER: I may say for the information of the hon. member that the Bill is printed and is probably available for distribution; but it is almost impossible at this stage to supend the proceedings in order to have a Bill of this kind distributed, as is the case with other Bills during the session.

Mr. McKENZIE: This will be my only opportunity of asking the Minister of Immigration and Colonization (Mr. Calder), something about the distribution of part of the money that is included in this Bill. I think he gave a general answer as to the methods by which the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment would distribute it, but it would be well to have some proper machinery or system established in each province. There should be in each province a board to which proper instructions have been given as to how the money is to be handled. Taking my province, for instance, I suppose what would be good practice there would be good practice in the other provinces. As regards

Nova Scotia, what board is the minister going to establish and where is it to be established for the purpose of dealing with the distribution of this money amongst soldiers and their widows and every other person who is entitled to this money; with the idea that the same rule that will be established there will apply to each of the other provinces?

Mr. CALDER: I can only speak offhand at the present time, because no decision has been reached. There has not been an opportunity to consider the question as to the nature of the machinery that should be provided, but, as I said the other night, it seems to me that it is possible that new machinery will have to be established. I think that some one acting on behalf of the Government should take charge of the expenditure of the moneys appropriated for necessitous cases arising out of unemployment, and that necessary rules and regulations should be laid down as to the distribution of that money, the conditions under which it will be paid, the amount that will be payable to any one person, the length of time during which it shall be paid, and so forth. We shall have to have a central authority acting for the whole of Canada. I can conceive that it will be necessary to have in each province a small board of not more than three for the whole province, and there is just a possibility that we shall be able to get this work accomplished within a period of four or five months. In addition to the provincial boards, I think it will also be necessary to have local boards. For instance, in the province of Ontario, say, there may be an unemployment situation in Toronto, Hamilton, Peterborough, or elsewhere, and it will be essential to have local boards under the provincial boards to look into this work. We should very clearly establish by Order in Council the rules and regulations under which this money will be made available; and that the whole thing should be under one central authority for the Dominion there can be no doubt. We have not had time so far to consider the matter in its details. I should like to consult some of the soldier organizations regarding the best plan that should be devised to deal with the problem, and the opportunity is not by any means exhausted for carrying on these consultations.

Mr. MAHARG: Does the minister think that the legislation which has been enacted is sufficiently elastic to permit of dealing with the subject in a broad and generous manner? The hon. minister, if I understood