

I understand that this is in accordance with the Civil Service Act, and that the matter has been referred to and confirmed by the Civil Service Commission.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: There is no change in salary?

Hon. Mr. KING: No change in salary.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Honourable senators, I rise, not for the purpose of opposing this motion, which may be entirely proper, but to ask where the Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts comes in. I have observed during the last seven, eight or ten years that that committee is, if I may say it without being unkind, merely a makeshift which meets about the day before prorogation to rush through some things that presumably it has not had under consideration. I am wondering if this is not a matter which might consistently and logically come before that committee. I have not the slightest objection to this proposal, but it seems to me that the Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts ought to meet earlier in the session—maybe more than once—to consider questions relating to the personnel of the Senate. In that connection there are a number of questions on which I should like to secure some information, and in order to accomplish that purpose I have to undertake to make an inquiry, which I do not want to do.

I think that the particular matter before us, even though it may be 100 per cent right, should go to the committee for consideration, and that a recommendation should come from the committee to this House.

Hon. Mr. KING: I was pretty much of the same opinion myself, and asked the Clerk of the Senate if the matter should not go before that committee. I learned that this gentleman, Mr. LaRocque, has been carrying on the work for the last six years, and that all that is required is a motion of this kind.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: If he has been carried this long—

Hon. Mr. KING: I thought the committee was familiar with the fact that he had been acting.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK:—could he not be carried until May, so that the committee might have a meeting?

Hon. Mr. KING: I think it could be done; but if the present procedure is correct, why not dispose of the matter now?

Hon. Mr. KING.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: I do not think it is correct. I think all these appointments should come before the Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. KING: I was of that opinion too.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: I am still.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK moved in amendment:

That the said motion be not now concurred in, but that the subject-matter thereof be dealt with by the Standing Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts.

Hon. Mr. KING: I have no objection to it standing. Mr. LaRocque can carry on as he has done in the past.

The amendment was agreed to.

PRIVATE BILL

REFERRED BACK TO COMMITTEE

The Senate proceeded to consider the report of the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills on Bill C, an Act to change the name of The Saskatchewan Life Insurance Company to Fidelity Life Assurance Company.

Hon. W. H. McGUIRE: Honourable members, I wish to say just a few words with regard to this Bill. Unfortunately, being indisposed, I was not able to be present at the meeting of the committee yesterday. I understand that, as other committees were sitting at the same time, there was not a full attendance of the members of the Private Bills Committee. Furthermore, the young member of a law firm who put this matter before me several months ago has since gone into the Government service and has been unable to instruct me. I am told, however, that a member of a law firm was present at the committee's meeting yesterday. I think the only matter for consideration is whether it is reasonable and proper to change the company's name as proposed by the Bill, and my opinion is that after further study the committee would arrive at a satisfactory understanding. If it is necessary to have any change made in the new name proposed for the company, that could be decided in committee. As I should like to have time to get additional instructions, I would move that the Bill be referred back to the committee for further consideration after the Easter recess. It is a small matter and the committee would not need to take long to deal with it. I am desirous of being present when the Bill does come before the committee again.

Hon. L. COTE: Honourable members, it is not with any degree of enthusiasm that I rise to oppose the motion which has just