

Mr. DOHERTY: I am not clear that there were three who had been previously released on ticket-of-leave. I have been informed that of the three mentioned, two had been under sentence and were released on ticket-of-leave.

Mr. LEMIEUX: Lately?

Mr. DOHERTY: Not very long ago; within a few months. I can give the exact information if my hon. friend desires it.

Mr. LEMIEUX: Will my hon. friend be good enough to lay the information on the table of the House?

Mr. DOHERTY: Yes.

SALUTES TO OFFICERS.

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. FRANK OLIVER (Edmonton): I have noticed in the newspapers the statement that orders have recently been issued requiring all soldiers in London to salute all officers whom they may meet at any time or under any circumstances.

Sir SAM HUGHES: Even with ladies.

Mr. OLIVER: I wish to know whether that order was issued by the Minister of Militia and Defence, or by the overseas minister. Is the minister aware that the number of officers who are running loose on the streets of London, England, and not discharging valuable duties, is a disgrace to the Dominion of Canada?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The hon. member is exceeding by far his privileges.

Sir EDWARD KEMP: With regard to the former part of my hon. friend's remarks, I would say that it is proper and right that members of the rank and file should salute commissioned officers when they meet them on the streets in any part of the Empire.

Sir SAM HUGHES: Is it not the bounden duty of any officer to salute a private?

Sir EDWARD KEMP: Certainly; his duty is to return a salute. The member for Edmonton did not raise that question.

SUGGESTED REVISION OF PENSIONS SCALE.

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. J. G. TURRIFF (Assiniboia): The Minister of Finance (Sir Thomas White) made reference to the fact that the matter of increase of pensions to soldiers was under consideration. I would suggest to the minister that when this matter is being

[Mr. Lemieux.]

considered something should be done along the line of equalizing the pensions paid to privates and to officers. A general feeling exists throughout the country that the disparity between the amount paid to an officer and the amount paid to a private is too great.

WAR CHARITIES ACT.

Sir THOMAS WHITE (Minister of Finance) moved the second reading of Bill No. 130, relating to war charities.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion? Carried.

Mr. MACDONALD: Will the minister explain this Bill? Nobody has a copy of it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I declared the motion carried, but there is no objection to the hon. member speaking if the House consents.

Mr. PUGSLEY: The Bill is not yet distributed.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: I had intended to explain the Bill in Committee. The Bill was introduced into and passed by the Senate, and has now come to the House of Commons in my name. The statement was made that the Bill had not been distributed. I perceive by the Order of the Day, No. 21, that it has been printed in English and in French; I understood that it had been distributed. The Bill is of a comparatively unimportant character, and I think it is not necessary that there should be any delay. Its object is to provide that organizations making appeals to the public for war charities or alleged war charities must be registered under the provisions of this Act with the Secretary of State, or must obtain, in a simple manner provided in the Act, exemption from such registration by the Secretary of State. In other words, the object of the Bill is to protect the public against possible frauds by those representing themselves as acting for war charities.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the second time.

The House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. Rainville in the Chair.

On section 1—Short title:

Mr. PUGSLEY: This Bill seems to be of considerable importance, and I think it is objectionable that it should be considered in Committee before copies have been distributed. I have just this moment received a copy. I do not think the min-