

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, June 9, 1954

The house met at eleven o'clock.

NATIONAL PHYSICAL FITNESS ACT

REPEAL OF EXISTING LEGISLATION

Hon. Paul Martin (Minister of National Health and Welfare) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 475, to repeal the National Physical Fitness Act.

Mr. Macdonnell: Explain.

Mr. Martin: Mr. Speaker, this bill seeks to do precisely what it says, to repeal the National Physical Fitness Act.

Mr. Fleming: Why?

Mr. Drew: Mr. Speaker, I think before this is agreed to it should simply be explained that it has been ineffective and the minister is taking the proper course.

Mr. Martin: Mr. Speaker, for the first time in a long time I am able to agree fully with what the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Drew) has said.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

QUESTIONS

ARMED FORCES—MEDICAL CATEGORIES

Mr. McCullough (Moose Mountain):

1. What were the regulations and practices in respect of a veteran of world war II who enlisted with an A1 category and was discharged after five years service with an E category?
2. Is such a veteran automatically entitled to be boarded to ascertain pension disability, if any?
3. Is it possible for a veteran who enlisted and did not falsify his medical history to enter the services as A1 category and later to be discharged as category E and medically unfit, and yet not be eligible for pension?
4. If so, under what circumstances?

Mr. Bennett:

1. The conditions governing entitlement to pension for veterans of world war II are set out in the Pension Act, which act prescribes the procedure to be followed by the applicant and the commission.
2. Yes, the service documents of all veterans who served in world war II were screened to determine whether or not a pensionable disability existed at the time of discharge.

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- 3 and 4. Yes, if the lowered category
 - (1) was caused by improper conduct as defined in the Pension Act; or
 - (2) was incurred while on leave of absence without pay; or
 - (3) was incurred when the member of the forces had, during leave of absence with pay, undertaken an occupation that was unconnected with military service; or
 - (4) was the result of the discovery on service of physical or mental inability to absorb training and when such physical or mental limitation pre-existed enlistment but was not apparent at the time of enlistment and the existence of which may well have been unknown to the serviceman himself.

GARLAND BUILDING, OTTAWA

Mr. Hodgson:

1. Has the Garland building at the corner of O'Connor and Queen streets, Ottawa, been leased by the federal government?
2. If so, what is the term of the lease?
3. What rental is being paid?
4. Is the building being renovated?
5. If so, what has been the cost of such renovations to date?
6. What is the estimated cost to complete such renovations?
7. Were tenders called for this work?
8. If so, what are the names of those submitting tenders and the amount of each tender?
9. Who was the successful tenderer and what was the amount of such tender?
10. What was the original cost of this building?
11. What is the assessed value and taxes per year?
12. Was this building condemned at any time?
13. What use is the government making of this building?

Mr. Bourget:

1. Yes.
2. Ten years from December 1, 1953.
3. \$54,450 per annum for 44,000 sq. ft.
4. Yes.
- 5 and 6. Estimated cost \$175,000.
7. Yes, by invitation bids.
8. Leopold Beaudoin Construction Company, \$5,000 fixed fee; Doran Construction Company Limited, \$6,000 fixed fee; A. Lanctot Construction Company, \$6,124 fixed fee; A. Tessier, \$22,800 fixed fee.
9. Leopold Beaudoin Construction Company—\$5,000 fixed fee up to \$175,000—3 per cent for any expenditure over \$175,000.
10. No information available.
11. (a) \$144,075.00 (assessment); (b) \$5,956.64 (taxes, 1954).