

Dr. George F. Davidson, Secretary, the Treasury Board: Mr. Clark is probably the only person who really understands what is really in this bill. Although I shall be here, I will pass on to him as many questions of detail as I can.

As to procedure, it seems to me that the sooner we consider the bill Part by Part the better. We can become confused by a general presentation. We should concentrate first on the bill as a whole, as set out in opening page of Explanatory Notes. Then we should concentrate on Part I. Clark and I will give cross references wherever necessary to clauses in other acts or to clauses elsewhere in this bill.

I direct your attention to what is stated here to be the four-fold purpose of the bill as a whole. It is to provide for fulfilment of the undertaking given by the Government, at the time of the introduction of the Canada Pension Plan, to implement, to whatever extent possible, the policy of integration between the Canada Pension Plan and the legislation covered by this bill.

The second purpose is to take account of the movement in the direction of portable pensions, which has become a feature of provincial legislation. Quebec, Ontario and Alberta have passed legislation to increase portability of pensions as between industrial and other pension plans. This is to enable the labour force to become even more mobile than in the past, by removing deterrents through lack of portability.

In conformity with the trend established by provincial legislation, the Government is prepared to play its part to convert its legislation to conform to these portability requirements which the provinces are imposing. The third main purpose is to raise the limit on the amount of the supplementary death benefit payable in respect of persons employed in the Public Service and members of the Canadian forces. In the past there has been a limit of \$5,000 on the death benefit provision. This sum, by this bill, will be raised to a limit that is approximately equivalent to the salary that the employee is receiving at any given time. Together with the raising of the limit there is a provision to separate the death benefit provisions for members of the armed forces from the death benefit provisions for the members of the Public Service, the reason for this being that the mortality experience in relation to the relatively healthy members of the armed forces is so much more favourable than that of the relatively unhealthy members of the Public Service that the armed forces can be given the advantage of the more favourable rate to which their experience entitles them. For that purpose the death benefit provisions, as they apply to members of the armed forces, will be deleted from the Public Service Superannuation Act and be converted into a separate new Part of the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act.

Finally, there is a grab bag of amendments of different kinds which I think it will be better to deal with as we come to them, because some of these amendments are of a general nature that are being made in the interests of better administration and to clean up a number of leftover problems that have arisen from time to time in the past. These will affect some parts of the legislation and others. There is, for example, something here covering the situation that arose from the fact that the postal workers went out on a work stoppage last year and technically disqualified themselves under the present law