

central tribunal. These appeals are to be carried out under regulations to be made on the recommendation of the Central Appeal Judge.

It is also provided by section 10 that the Governor in Council may, on the recommendation of the Central Appeal Judge, appoint one or more other judges of any superior court to assist the Central Appeal Judge in the discharge of his duties, and may define their powers. It was thought that there might be more work for the Central Appeal Judge than he could properly attend to, and therefore, this provision was made.

I come now to a very important section, that which concerns exemption. I do not think it is necessary that I should read the whole section; the Bill will shortly be before the members of the House. I shall, however, explain its provisions. It is section 11, and it provides:

(1) At any time before a date to be fixed in the proclamation mentioned in section four, an application may be made, by or in respect of any man in the class or subclass called out by such proclamation, to a local tribunal established in the province in which such man ordinarily resides, for a certificate of exemption on any of the following grounds:—

(a) That it is expedient in the national interest that the man should, instead of being employed in military service, be engaged in other work in which he is habitually engaged;

That provision, if I remember correctly, is taken from the British Act. It was inserted in that Act at the instance of representatives of organized labour, who were afraid that otherwise there would be power under the Act to affect prejudicially their interests in certain respects. The list of exemptions continues as follows:

(b) That it is expedient in the national interest that the man should, instead of being employed in military service, be engaged in other work in which he wishes to be engaged and for which he has special qualifications;

That is almost identical in its terms with the corresponding section in the British Act. (Reading):

(c) That it is expedient in the national interest that, instead of being employed in military service, he should continue to be educated or trained for any work for which he is then being educated or trained;

(d) That serious hardship would ensue, if the man were placed on active service, owing to his exceptional financial or business obligations or domestic position;

(e) Ill health or infirmity;

(f) That he conscientiously objects to the undertaking of combatant service and is prohibited from so doing by the tenets and articles of faith, in effect at the date of the passing of this Act, of any organized religious denomination existing and well recognized in

[Sir Robert Borden.]

Canada at such date, and to which he in good faith belongs;

The Bill goes on to provide that if any of the grounds of the application for exemption are established, a certificate of exemption shall be granted to the applicant. It is further provided that a certificate may be conditional as to time or otherwise and, if granted solely on conscientious grounds, it shall state that exemption is from combatant service only.

Another provision which I consider very important and appropriate is taken from the British Act, and was regarded in Great Britain as essential in the interests of labour. It is as follows:

No certificate shall be conditional upon a person to whom it is granted continuing in or entering into employment under any specified employer or in any specified place or establishment.

It was feared in Great Britain that certificates might be granted upon conditions respecting employment which would place employees more or less at the mercy of employers. There was, therefore, in the British Act a direct provision, which we have adopted in this Bill, that no such condition should be inserted in any certificate of exemption.

Another provision in this section makes it an offence to make any false statement or representation before a tribunal or to alter or tamper with a certificate. It is provided also that where a certificate is lost, destroyed or defaced, the tribunal may grant another certificate upon the payment of a small fee.

Section 12 provides that the Governor in Council may make regulations for certain purposes therein mentioned.

Section 13 contains general provisions making applicable the Militia Act, the Army Act and the King's Regulations and Orders for the army in so far as they are applicable and not inconsistent with this Act. This section also empowers the Minister of Militia and Defence to transfer to the Naval Service any man who has reported for duty under the provisions of this Act.

Sections 14 and 15 are not important; I need not refer to them at the moment. Sub-section 1 of section 16 is as follows:

This Act shall come into force on such day, after the passing thereof, as the Governor in Council may fix by proclamation.

The only portion of the Act to which I have not directed attention, is the schedule, which sets forth the exceptions. It is as follows: