

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, March 9, 1966

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

[Translation]

ELECTION ACT AMENDMENT

PROVISION TO VOTE ON SUNDAY

Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc (Laurier) moved the second reading of Bill No. C-137, to amend the Canada Elections Act (Elections on a Sunday).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Leblanc (Laurier): Mr. Speaker, this bill has two distinct objects, one being of an economic nature and the other, of a political nature.

One of its objects is economic in that employers would no longer have to grant three hours' leave to their employees, since the vote would be held on a Sunday.

The other is political in character, because electors would find it easier to exercise their franchise, since Sunday is not a working day.

[English]

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

CIVIL SERVICE ACT AMENDMENT

PROVISION FOR HEARING UNDER INQUIRIES ACT

Mr. David Lewis (York South) moved the first reading of Bill No. C-138, to amend the Civil Service Act (to provide a full and impartial hearing for an employee dismissed under section 50 of the act.)

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, this suggestion arises out of a very recent debate and would add a section to section 50 of the Civil Service Act so that any government employee dismissed under that section would be given a full and impartial hearing by a commissioner or commissioners appointed under part 1 of the Inquiries Act, if the employee or his agent requests it in writing.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

[Translation]

OLD AGE SECURITY ACT AMENDMENT

PROVISION TO ALLOW DELAY FOLLOWING LATE FILING

Mr. J. R. Comtois (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-139, to amend the Old Age Security Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Comtois: Mr. Speaker, this bill proposes to grant a 12-month extension to those people who, through ignorance, inadvertence or incapacity, did not file an application for these benefits at the time stipulated by law.

This 12-month extension would spare losses and great inconvenience to people who forget their age (an error of one year is frequent amongst the aged, and more particularly amongst women) or those who, because the law has been changed (the age of eligibility being progressively lowered from 70 to 65 years), might forget to file their application on time.

[English]

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

CENTENNIAL COMMISSION EMPLOYEES FROM P.E.I.

Question No. 317—**Mr. MacDonald (Prince):**

What is the number of paid employees of the National Centennial Committee from Prince Edward Island and what are the names of these employees?

Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State): The national centennial committee is an ad hoc committee made up of two federal ministers and two representatives generally a minister and a deputy minister of each province of Canada, under the chairmanship of the Secretary of State of Canada. It does not have any paid employees. A secretariat for the National Centennial Committee is provided by the Centennial Commission.