

he saw the honourable member from Vancouver South (Hon. Mr. Farris), who had taken the same view independently. I think the amendment now proposed covers the defect. In my opinion, without this amendment a member of the House of Commons is out of his seat *ex facto*. Therefore it is not a question of voting and sitting; he could not vote and sit. I think that was not the intention of the draftsman. Let there be no misunderstanding on the part of those honourable senators who were not on the committee. This is not special legislation to protect members of Parliament, either of the Senate or the House of Commons; it is merely for the purpose of clarification. A farmer, who might be a member of the House of Commons or of the Senate, would under this proposed legislation be entitled to \$2 an acre for acreage reduction. It was, I submit, never intended that the Senate and House of Commons Act should apply to such a payment. In Manitoba the telephone system is owned by the Government, and somebody threatened to take proceedings against a member of the Government who had a telephone in his house. We had to enact special legislation so that a member of the Legislature could rent a telephone. I support the amendment.

The amendment was agreed to.

THIRD READING

Hon. Mr. KING moved the third reading of the Bill as amended.

Hon. Mr. FARRIS: I move in amendment:

That Bill 12 be not now read a third time, but that it be amended as follows:

For subclause 2 of clause 4 substitute the following:—

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of the Senate and House of Commons Act, or of any other Act of the Parliament of Canada, payments under this Act or any previous Order of the Governor in Council, relating to the payment of wheat acreage bonus, may be made to a member of the Senate or of the House of Commons of Canada, with respect to wheat acreage reduction subsequent to 1940, and no payment as aforesaid or payments heretofore made—

That is new.

—under any Order as aforesaid shall render any such member liable to any penalty or disqualification,—

That is new.

—or vacate the seat of any member of the House of Commons of Canada, or render such member ineligible to sit or vote in the said House, and no person applying for or receiving any such payment shall thereby be disqualified as a candidate at any Dominion election.

Hon. Mr. MacARTHUR: Honourable senators, this question was taken up in the Committee on Banking and Commerce this morning, and I should like to have the views of the chairman of the committee with regard to it. Our Law Clerk and other lawyers were present in the committee when these matters were discussed, and we came to an understanding. What is proposed may or may not be superfluous. I do not know. But the honourable senator from Vancouver South (Hon. Mr. Farris) has referred to a member of the Senate or of the House of Commons having a contract with the Government, and I should like to know if a man who has entered into a contract with the Government is now immune from any penalty.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: No. This applies only to contracts under the Wheat Acreage Reduction legislation.

The amendment was agreed to.

The motion for the third reading of the Bill was agreed to, and the Bill, as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

CLERK OF FRENCH MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

PROPOSED APPOINTMENT—REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. Mr. KING: Honourable members, may I bring to the attention of the Senate that part of the Civil Service Act which provides for the absorption into the public service of private secretaries who have served as such for a minimum period of three years. A case in point is that of Mr. LaRocque, who was selected by the late Leader of the Government in this House, and appointed by Order in Council as Private Secretary to the Minister on October 23, 1935. In addition to his secretarial duties Mr. LaRocque has acted for some six years as temporary Clerk of French Minutes of Proceedings and Journals of the Senate, that position having been vacant since the retirement on superannuation of Mr. A. L. Garneau. I am advised that Mr. LaRocque is experienced and is well qualified to perform the duties of that position. I therefore have the honour to move, seconded by the Hon. Senator Coté:

That under the provisions of sections sixty and sixty-one of the Civil Service Act, chapter twenty-two of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, Paul LaRocque, Private Secretary to the late Right Honourable Raoul Dandurand, be appointed Clerk of French Minutes of Proceedings and Journals of the Senate, in the place and stead of Alfred L. Garneau, retired, and that he be paid a salary of \$3,120 per annum as from 1st April, 1942.