

statute and not be made the subject of Orders in Council. We are going into an arrangement here which reaches very much farther in the matter of governmental responsibility than the ordinary homestead regulations, and all I ask is that we give the same assurance of stated facts to the conditions that we found necessary in the case of ordinary homesteaders. If this was necessary in the case of ordinary homesteaders, it is very much more necessary in the case of this special class of people with whom we have to deal.

Section agreed to.

On section 5—Loan to settler not exceeding \$2,500.

Mr. OLIVER: I assume that the soldier who has rendered service and has returned will be eligible, under this section, to secure a loan on his homestead?

Mr. ROCHE: Yes.

Mr. TURRIFF: Will a returned soldier who is eligible as a homesteader be able to take a homestead and then get from the Government under this Bill an adjoining quarter section in addition?

Mr. ROCHE: This Bill does not interfere with a man's homestead rights, so that he can qualify for this 160 acres upon being a soldier and in addition he can exercise his privilege of homesteading under the Dominion Lands Act and take an adjoining homestead.

Mr. TURRIFF: Will he be allowed to take a homestead in this reserve?

Mr. ROCHE: Either in or outside of the reserve. He will not be confined to the reserve.

Mr. TURRIFF: A man who has not had a homestead in Canada will be able to secure a half-section under this Bill?

Mr. ROCHE: Yes.

Mr. JAMESON: What arrangement, if any, does the minister purpose to make for settling soldiers in those provinces in which they desire to settle? I would like to know if any provision will be made for the expropriation of land of a suitable character and what steps will be taken in that direction.

Mr. ROCHE: All the public land outside of the three prairie provinces is Crown land in the right of the provinces and each of the provinces has a land settlement policy of its own. Some of the provinces have already

passed legislation with special reference to the returned soldier. Others possibly have in contemplation legislation with special reference to the returned soldier. We thought it advisable, after consultation with the representatives of the various provincial governments, to leave the disposition of the Crown lands of the various provinces entirely to the provincial governments. Some of these provinces, notably Ontario, at the last session of the provincial legislature, gave 80 acres of homestead land in the Northern part of the province to any returned soldier who wished to settle on it. I do not think that Nova Scotia has adopted legislation as yet with special reference to the returned soldiers. However, the returned soldier who desires to locate upon Crown land in Nova Scotia, or who has a little capital of his own and desires to purchase some land, may utilize this section and secure a loan to the maximum amount of \$2,500, just the same as those soldiers who want to locate upon the free Dominion lands in the West. The loan part of this Bill is available to the returned soldier in any province of the Dominion and with reference to any land upon which he may desire to locate.

Sir HERBERT AMES: What course will be pursued where there is already a loan policy on the part of the province? Will both loans be available?

Mr. ROCHE: In that respect the commission will have to measure up their security. They will have to get the necessary security, which is a first mortgage on the land, and if the provincial government have already granted a loan to the returned soldier on provincial Crown land and got a first mortgage, the soldier would not be eligible under our legislation unless he utilized our loan for the payment of the first mortgage, giving us a first lien.

Mr. JAMESON: The difficulty I foresee is this: In certain provinces in Canada, notably, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, there are no free lands suitable for settlement.

Mr. COCHRANE: There are in New Brunswick.

Mr. JAMESON: I do not speak definitely of New Brunswick, but in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward there are no Crown lands suitable for settlement. This Bill is going to work very great unfairness to these provinces. In the western provinces the Crown in the right of the Dominion possesses certain lands. There a returned