

*Canada Pension Plan*

I hope the bill will, by Wednesday evening of this week, have received approval in principle so that it may be referred to the special committee we have just set up. The committee can then get on with its work of calling expert testimony and hearing representations from many interested groups as it proceeds with a clause by clause examination of Bill No. C-136.

**Mr. Churchill:** May I ask whether copies of the actuarial report are available for each member?

**Miss LaMarsh:** Yes, they will be available for all. They will now be placed in members' boxes.

By leave, I wish to table two copies of the actuarial report on the Canada pension plan dated November 6, 1964.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Does the minister have the unanimous consent of the house to table the document referred to?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Hon. J. W. Monteith (Perth):** One of the questions I had intended to ask the minister later on in the course of my remarks was: What about the actuaries' report, and who are these actuaries? I have heard the hon. lady mention the chief actuary of the Department of Insurance and I hope she will tell us whether or not this report was drawn up by the chief actuary of the Department of Insurance alone or whether there were outside actuaries, or others, involved. The hon. lady shakes her head—no. So this is completely within the Department of Insurance.

I am shocked at the way this house has been treated in this respect. Last Monday we had the resolution. It was passed on Monday evening, but the bill was not ready. The hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. Churchill)—

**Miss LaMarsh:** On a question of privilege.

**Mr. Monteith:** Only 100 copies in English—

**Miss LaMarsh:** On a question of privilege, the bill was ready in both English and French and it was only because of the fact that it could not be reprinted in large numbers because it had to have the number of the bill put on it—

**Mr. Monteith:** For goodness sake, when is the government going to take some responsibility in these things?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Monteith:** The bill was not ready last Tuesday in English and in French for all

members of the House of Commons. I inquired of the Minister of National Health and Welfare what the circumstances were, and she made an explanation. She said there had been about 100 copies printed. I thought she said at that time they were available in English only. There may have been some French copies; the translation may not have been completed, or sufficient copies printed. But she also said they would not be available to members of the house until Thursday of last week.

Now, several days have passed. One question I had intended to ask the minister was: Where is the actuarial report; would it be presented only to the joint committee when set up? Now I ask the minister this: Why are not the members of the House of Commons taken into her confidence? We should have had this report before the second reading of this bill came up. I think this represents a complete abdication of responsibility. I am referring to the appendices. I made a note of the minister's remarks in the last few moments of her statement. Apparently they are still not complete. I do not know what kind of discharge of responsibility this represents in the opinion of the government, but in my opinion it is most inept.

**Mr. Byrne:** Sour grapes.

**Mr. Monteith:** Sour grapes my eye. The hon. member from, wherever you are from—Kootenay East—

**Mr. Byrne:** I know where I am from.

**Mr. Monteith:** You do, but nobody else does. All we hear from this member is when he chirps up and interrupts. Get up and talk on the pension plan.

**Mr. Byrne:** If I did, I would make more sense than you.

**Mr. Monteith:** Mr. Speaker, we have just agreed to set up a joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons, of which 24 members are to be from the House of Commons. We are requesting the Senate to consider appointing some members to this special committee. I go back to the joint committee of 1950. That committee, if you recall, sir, did reach unanimity; all parties and members of both the Senate and the House of Commons were unanimous. I do not know whether this was the first time in the history of our parliament, but it was probably about the first time in the memory of a great many of us that actual unanimity was reached in a matter such as this. I can only say that