

This is no time for complacency. It is a time for united effort, for ceaseless endeavour; above all, for action, fearless action. This is the time to subordinate all other affairs, to smash away the political bickerings and the departmental red tape which in the past have impeded democratic action. This is the time to mobilize with ruthless speed every resource of this vast country.

We, the Commons of Canada, assembled within these four walls, have the power to do these things, and the people of Canada, who sent us here, expect us to use that power so that we and our allies, with God's aid, may win a peace which will ensure the freedom of the peoples of this world.

On motion of Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury) the debate was adjourned.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King the house adjourned at 4.30 p.m.

Monday, May 20, 1940

The house met at three o'clock.

NAVAL SERVICE ACT

PROVISION TO MAKE CIVILIANS SERVING IN SHIPS
SUBJECT TO NAVAL DISCIPLINE

Hon. NORMAN McL. ROGERS (Minister of National Defence) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 2, to amend the Naval Service Act.

Mr. STIRLING: Explain.

Mr. ROGERS: The purpose of this bill is to make subject to naval discipline persons who have agreed to serve as civilians in a particular ship or in such ships as may be determined by the minister. These are persons who are not members of the Canadian naval forces and eligible for all the benefits such as pension and so forth applicable to such forces. The bill is identical in form with one passed by the United Kingdom parliament to meet a similar situation arising in the Royal Navy. It will avoid the emergence of questions which arose at the end of the last war with respect to persons employed in the Canadian naval forces in a similar capacity.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

MILITIA PENSION ACT

PERMANENT FORCE NAVAL OFFICERS TO BENEFIT
IN RESPECT OF ONE-HALF OF PREVIOUS
NON-PERMANENT SERVICE

Hon. NORMAN McL. ROGERS (Minister of National Defence) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 3, to amend the Militia Pension Act.

He said: The purpose of this bill is to enable officers of the permanent naval forces to reckon for purposes of pension one-half of any former time served in the non-permanent naval forces, thereby placing these officers on the same basis as officers of the permanent military and air forces with respect to the inclusion of one-half their previous service in the non-permanent military and air forces.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

NATIONAL DEFENCE ACT

ADMINISTRATION OF SERVICE ESTATES TO BE
REGULATED BY GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

Hon. NORMAN McL. ROGERS (Minister of National Defence) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 4, to amend the Department of National Defence Act.

He said: The purpose of this bill is to enable the administration of service estates to be effected under regulations made by the governor in council. Regulations in this regard have already been made under the War Measures Act, and, so long as that act is capable of being invoked, such regulations have the force of law. Of necessity these regulations may have to be continued in force and effect for some time after the War Measures Act is capable of being invoked, and, in consequence, some other statutory authority is required to enable the governor in council to make such regulations.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

PROVISIONS AS TO CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT,
RELATIONS WITH OTHER FORCES AND
WITH CIVIL AUTHORITIES

Hon. NORMAN McL. ROGERS (Minister of National Defence) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 5 respecting the Royal Canadian Air Force.

He said: The Royal Canadian Air Force was constituted under the Aeronautics Act, which pertains rather to the regulation of aeronautics generally than to the constitution and maintenance of an armed force. The naval forces and the militia are each constituted under their respective acts, and it is considered advisable that like provision should be made for the air force.

The present bill does not alter the existing constitution of the air force, and is in principle similar to the Naval Service Act and the Militia Act, except that it omits a number of provisions contained in those two acts which are either not applicable to the air force or need not, having regard to the circumstances of the air force, be made applicable.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.