

Civil Service Superannuation

for money. The moneys are ear-marked for the purpose but beyond that nothing special is done with them.

Mr. ROBB: The money is properly ear-marked so that the amount is kept separate.

Mr. MEIGHEN: What is the contemplated amount in the supplementary estimates to take care of next year's obligation in respect to this?

Mr. ROBB: Nothing has been considered yet. My right hon. friend means the supplementary estimates—

Mr. MEIGHEN: For this year.

Mr. ROBB: We have no supplementary estimates under consideration yet.

Mr. MEIGHEN: But there will be some?

Mr. ROBB: Do not urge that too strongly. Do not remind any person that there may be supplementary estimates.

Mr. MEIGHEN: What fund would the minister take it out of?

Mr. ROBB: I imagine provision will have to be made if the committee report in favour of the resolution.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I should think so. The estimate of a million and a half per year is based, of course, on an annual civil service list of thirty millions. This must be the minister's estimate of the civil service list aside from temporary employees. The act is not to apply to temporary employees at all?

Mr. ROBB: No, I would not think so.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Is not the proportion of civil servants who are temporary employees very large?

Mr. ROBB: I should not like to get into a controversy over that.

Mr. MEIGHEN: The figures are easily ascertainable. The number of each class is known within very close approximation.

Mr. ROBB: Yes, but very conflicting. The real basis for an estimate of the number of civil servants is the cheques that are issued monthly.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Well, I suppose that is one way of estimating, but each department has a list of its civil servants. The minister says there is a conflict as to who are temporary and who are permanent?

Mr. ROBB: No, as to the total number of employees.

[Sir Henry Drayton.]

Mr. MEIGHEN: There may be as to the exact number, but we could tell pretty closely. Are there not temporary employees who have been in the service for over ten years?

Mr. ROBB: I think so.

Mr. MEIGHEN: How does the government distinguish the one class from the other?

Mr. ROBB: I imagine that will be considered in the bill to be presented.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I do not see it. The bill is here and imagination does not help much when cold print is before you.

Mr. ROBB: That might be considered by the committee.

Mr. CRERAR: Has my right hon. friend a copy of the bill?

Mr. MEIGHEN: I just have the introduction copy that I got from the Clerk.

Resolution reported, read the second time and concurred in. Mr. Robb thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 122, to provide for the superannuation of civil servants.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

Mr. SPEAKER: When shall the bill be read a second time?

Mr. ROBB: Now, with the unanimous consent of the House.

Mr. COOTE: Have copies of the bill been printed and distributed?

Mr. ROBB: The bill has been printed and is ready for distribution.

Mr. COOTE: I think we should object to the second reading until copies of the bill are in the hands of hon. members.

Mr. SPEAKER: The bill has not been distributed and objection has been taken to the second reading now. Motion stands until the next sitting of the House.

WAYS AND MEANS

CUSTOMS TARIFF ACT, 1907, AMENDMENT

The House in committee of Ways and Means, Mr. Marcell (Bonaventure) in the chair.

1. Resolved, That the Customs Tariff, 1907, be amended by adding after paragraph (d) of section four the following as paragraphs (e) and (f) of section four:

(e) Extend the benefit of the British preferential tariff to any territory administered under a mandate of the League of Nations by any British country to which British country the benefit of the British preferential