

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: I was going to propose that we should adopt the Report of the Committee. They were much better informed than we could possibly be, and if we have confidence in the Committee we should adopt the report.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Before the Chairman rises, I desire to draw the attention of my honourable friend to the fact that when I entered the Committee I entered it as the representative of the Government. My honourable friend knows the limitations with which I am surrounded. I received this morning from the Minister who has charge of this Bill a letter representing that the Government in the House of Commons would be unable to accept the abandonment of the insurance principle. How, as leader of the Government in this Chamber, can I do otherwise than state the view of the Government?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: If my honourable friend had stated that in the Committee, we would not have laboured on this section for the hours and the days that we did.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: My honourable friend does not forget that, from the time when I first took charge of the work of the Government in this Chamber, I stated that I recognized no followers and no opponents—that the Senate was a free body that could alter Bills coming from the other Chamber; but, trying to be logical and to follow the clear course of duty, I suppose it is imposed upon me also, so long as there is in this Chamber a representative of the Government, to state what is the view of the Government. Can I take two courses when I lay down the view of the Government? When I have explained a Bill and the view of the Government, I endeavour to leave every member sitting on this side free to act as he pleases. Ever since I have sat here I have refused to recognize or tolerate the action of a whip in this Chamber representing my views.

Hon. Mr. GIRROIR: As I supported the Bill and voted against the amendment, I wish to say that I voted in that way from conviction, believing the amendment was not a proper one to make to the Bill. I did not intend it in any way to reflect upon the Committee who were appointed by this House to examine the Bill, and I have yet to learn that when a matter is referred to a Committee for a report the finding of the Committee is final. I have always thought that it was a matter for consideration by the House, and that the members of the House, examining

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that Report and taking into account the arguments adduced in support of it, still had the privilege and opportunity of voting as they thought proper and just in respect to the matter in hand. I do not think it is fair to intimate that the members who voted against the amendment are going back on the Committee which they appointed. We who had the benefit of the Report were in a very fair position to judge. We may be wrong. We judged according to our best knowledge, and I do not think for a moment it should be said by anyone in this House that we have been disloyal.

At 6 o'clock the Committee took recess.

The Committee resumed at 8 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Bradbury in the Chair.

On section 4—pension in accord with extent of disability; how extent of disability estimated; when no deduction of pension:

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: My understanding, Mr. Chairman, is this. The report of the Committee contemplated the substitution of a new subsection for subsection 1 of new section 11, of section 3 of the Bill. The Committee having decided that the subsection as in the Bill shall remain, I take it that there will be no further amendment until we come to clause 9, which deals with the District Review Boards, with the exception of a small amendment here and there.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: The provision as to ratability, as printed in the Bill, may be changed. The Report was to the other effect, that no change be made in the ratability. That comes under section 4.

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: Will the honourable gentleman kindly state that again?

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: Subsection 2 of new section 25, of clause 4, reads:

2. The estimate of the extent of a disability shall be based on the Instructions and a Table of Disabilities to be made by the Commission for the guidance of physicians and surgeons making medical examinations for pension purposes.

Section 4 was agreed to.

On section 5—date of coming into force; review; pensions to be granted under present legislation; effect upon payment of insurance benefit:

Hon. Mr. TURRIFF: How much is that going to add to the payment?

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: The whole of section 5 consists of retroactive clauses bringing into effect the benefits which were denied between the period of 1919 and 1920, and