

collect it by law I suppose. Consequently in this Act it is not conditional. The Canadian government is not making it conditional upon this time being counted that the imperial government should contribute the proportion to which the soldiers would be entitled. It seems to me it should all be conditional upon the imperial government contributing the proper proportion of the pension.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I presume we can place confidence in the imperial government that they will carry out what they propose, without including a provision in an Act of parliament. It would not have any more effect even if we did, because we cannot coerce them. They have already agreed as to the men we take over that they will account to Canada for the proportion of the pension which they should pay.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I am rather surprised that the hon. leader of the opposition should raise any question, even if there is no provision, that the imperial authorities should pay a proportion of the pension. I think if we get the services of these British officers and soldiers we are doing our duty as citizens of the empire in allowing the time which they have spent in the service of the empire under the imperial authorities, to count towards their pension.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—That is simply equivalent to saying that because of the existence of an imperial spirit, we should recklessly draw Acts of parliament and make no provision for the proper carrying out of a compact of this nature. That is no good reason why the statute should not be conditional upon the imperial government contributing their share of the pensions.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—The suggestion of the hon. gentleman from Halifax might work out very adversely as regards Canada if any considerable number of these officers had put in the greater portion of their term of service before coming to Canada. Assuming that some of them have only one or two years to put in in order to complete their term of service, it would be scarcely fair that we should undertake the duty of pensioning them for the rest of their lives; but, as the hon. Secretary of State

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED.

has told us that there is an arrangement between the two governments with regard to the matter, no doubt it can be worked out. I should like to know whether these men who become officers of the permanent force of Canada will become contributors to a pension fund in the same way as our own officers.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The imperial government do not exact any annual payment as we do. We exact 5 per cent each year.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—Will our principle be made to apply in these cases?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—No, the time they serve in the imperial army is credited to them. I observe that the leader of the opposition in the other House asks whether the imperial government would reimburse the Canadian government year by year. Sir Frederick Borden replied that they would, that an account is kept with each officer, and that he is credited annually with the proper amount. That amount will be paid to the Canadian government when the officer has earned his pension under the Canadian law.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Do our militia volunteers who are on service, pay into a superannuation fund?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Yes, 5 per cent is deducted from their pay annually and funded. The Minister of Militia informed the House of Commons that that fund was practically self-sustaining. The men have to serve a long term before becoming entitled to a pension. If they retire before the expiration of 20 years they do not receive a pension, simply a donation, so that the fund practically is large enough to meet the demands upon it at the present time. That is with regard to the permanent force.

Hon. Mr. DAVID, from the committee, reported the Bill without amendment.

The Bill was then read the third time and passed.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

BILLS ASSENTED TO.

The Honourable the Chief Justice of Canada, acting as Deputy to His Excellency the