

The Bill was then read the third time and passed.

SENATE AND HOUSE OF COMMONS' BILL.

FIRST READING.

A Message was received from the House of Commons with Bill (132) "An Act further to amend the Act respecting the Senate and the House of Commons."

The Bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL moved the suspension of the rule and that the Bill be read the second time. He said:—This Bill simply gives authority to pay members of both Houses their sessional indemnity without deduction if they have not been absent more than six days during the session.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I object to the suspension of the rule in this case. I think this is a most improper Bill.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL—Then I move that the Bill be read the second time at the next sitting of the House.

The motion was agreed to.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE BILL.

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

A Message was received from the House of Commons with Bill (118) "An Act to amend the Act respecting the Royal Military College."

The Bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL moved the suspension of the rule and that the Bill be read the second time. He said:—This is a Bill to amend the Royal Military College Act in one or two respects. The salaries which have been paid to the professors have, almost since the passage of the original Act, been not strictly in accord with the provisions of the law, and the Auditor-General having called the attention of the Militia Department to this fact, it was found necessary, in order to legalize the payments which have been made and also to fix the salaries for the future, that there should be an amendment to the Act. That is one of the provisions of the Bill. Another provision is to change in one

of the clauses the words "the Army Act" and insert instead "Mutiny Act." It is merely a clerical error and brings the College under the surveillance of the Army Act instead of the Mutiny Act. A section of the Act provides that in filling up the vacancies in the College, a certain number shall be selected from each province. I found when I was administering the affairs of that Department that there were several vacancies in the College, although quite a sufficient number of cadets had passed the requisite examination entitling them to a position in the College, but unfortunately they were confined mostly to one or two of the provinces, and the consequence was that if we had acted strictly in accordance with the provisions of the law, there would have been some five or six vacancies. I came to the conclusion then, as my successor has done since, that if the College is to be maintained they should have power to select from those who have the necessary qualifications to fill the College, first equally dividing them if they are to be found in the different provinces and, if not, take them from the other provinces, and the power is given to the Minister under this Bill to select the necessary number to fill the College from among those who have passed the examinations, taking them by order of merit, no matter from what province or portion of the Dominion they may come. These are the most important provisions of the proposed amendments to the Military College Act. There is one, however, which is more military in character than anything else. It establishes what they call a military branch in connection with the College—that is, it puts the sergeants and servants who are employed there under military law the same as they would be if they were under a commanding officer. There is another which relates to the civil branch. It is for the purpose of bringing the officers to headquarters where they will be taught their duties so that they will be prepared to take positions in the outside service.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill passed through its final stages under a suspension of the rules.

PETROLEUM INSPECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

A Message was received from the House