

depression came, even with all the savings that had accumulated in the fund were not enough to meet the payments, and Parliament had to vote supplementary supply. I am just a little bit disappointed that the supplementary payments provided for by this bill have to be taken out of general reserves. I think supplementary estimates should have been voted by Parliament, because this measure is really for the purpose of taking care of unemployment that is not normal. For instance, supposing a bank clerk is let out of his employment, there is not a chance of his being taken on by any other bank. The same remarks apply to many stenographers. An employer does not want to take into his office a stenographer who has been discharged. Now, all those people pay for unemployment insurance, and surely, payment of benefits to them should come out of a special fund. That is to say, various classes should have been created, as was done under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

However, this is not the time to discuss that point further. I am quite willing that the bill should pass at once, for I really do not understand how people can live and keep a home together on amounts paid out under the present act.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: There are no supplementary estimates to provide for this bill? This money, as I understand it, comes out of the fund, does it not?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: That is correct.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: There is plenty of money in that fund.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I am assured that there is plenty of money in the fund to cover the anticipated payments. A statement will be presented to Parliament showing the amount in the fund, but at any rate I am assured that the fund is well able to pay what it will be called upon to pay under this bill.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second time.

THIRD READING

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: On account of the urgency, I move, with leave, that this bill be read the third time now.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the third time, and passed.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Honourable senators, the bill having passed both houses of Parliament, it is ready to receive the Royal Assent this evening. This, I am sure, can be arranged. I therefore move that the house rise now, to resume at the call of the bell, at approximately 9.45.

The motion was agreed to and Senate adjourned during pleasure.

At 9.45 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Secretary to the Governor General, acquainting him that the Honourable Patrick Kerwin, Chief Justice of Canada, acting as Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, would proceed to the Senate Chamber on Thursday, January 13, at 9.45 p.m., for the purpose of giving the Royal Assent to a certain bill.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

The Honourable Patrick Kerwin, Chief Justice of Canada, the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, having come and being seated at the foot of the Throne, and the House of Commons having been summoned and being come with their Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to give the Royal Assent to the following bill:

An Act to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act.

The House of Commons withdrew.

The Honourable the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, January 18, at 8 p.m.