detailed classification of assets or liabilities in order to make possible a clearer appreciation of the position of the bank.

The next important amendment occurs in section 75 having to do with the business and powers of a bank. Paragraph (f) of subsection 2 is changed by lowering from ten per cent to five per cent of its paid-up capital the amount of a loan or advance which can be made by a bank to a director or to any firm or corporation in which the president, general manager or director of the bank is a partner or shareholder, without the approval of two-thirds of the directors present at a meeting of the board.

A new subsection 3 is added providing that in no case shall a director of the bank be present or vote at a meeting of the board during the time when loans or advances to himself or any firm or corporation of which he is a partner or director are under consideration. This implements a recommendation made by the Macmillan commission.

Certain changes or additions are made, particularly in section 90, concerning the relations between the bank and its customers, the type of security that can be taken, and so forth. These changes are designed to facilitate the granting of banking credit in certain cases.

A new subsection has been added to section 125 providing for a reduction in the double liability of shareholders pari passu with the withdrawal of the note circulation privilege of the banks.

These are the principal provisions of the bill. There are a number of minor changes which involve clarification of wording, uniformity in phrasing, improved definitions and so forth.

In submitting the bill to the house, I do so with the assurance that the government invites the closest and most careful scrutiny of the committee on banking and commerce, and while it cannot be expected that the measure will meet with universal accord, I express the hope that on the whole it will be found acceptable. As a concluding word may I suggest that, in the interest of public business as well as for the convenience of hon. members, its passage on its way to the banking and commerce committee might be expedited.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

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

Mr. RHODES: Would there be any objection to its being read now a second time for the purpose of facilitating its passage to the banking and commerce committee?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I desire to expedite the measure, but we would like to see it before having it pass its second reading.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk).

DISABILITY PENSIONS

Mr. PORTEOUS:

1. How many disability pensions were: (a) increased; (b) decreased, as a result of routine medical reexamination of pensioners during the year 1933?

2. What was the increased annual liability as a result of: (a) increased; and the decreased annual liability as a result of (b) decreased?

Mr. MacLAREN:

1. (a) 2,540; (b) 2,695.

2. (a) $480,844; (b) $561,607.

CAIRO POSTAL CONGRESS

Mr. POULIOT:

1. What is the agenda of the Cairo Postal congress?

2. Has the government given special instructions to the Canadian delegates in connection with the subjects mentioned in the agenda?

3. If so, what are such instructions?

4. Since the beginning of this congress: (a) what subjects were discussed; (b) what matters were decided?

5. Has said congress adjourned or come to an end?

6. If not, what questions are to be (a) discussed; (b) decided before the end of said congress?

7. Who are the members of the Canadian delegation who have taken part in the discussion since the beginning of the congress?

8. What technical subjects have they discussed?

Mr. BENNETT: Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a very earnest appeal to the hon. member for Temiscouata to drop this series of questions dealing with the activities of the Postmaster General while attending a postal congress—

Mr. POULIOT: Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Chapter IV of the standing orders of the house—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. POULIOT: I will wait until the hon. members listen to me. I stand by the rules of the house.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member proceed with the point of order?