

bers on the Government side of the House, the honourable member from De Salaberry (Hon. Mr. Béique) rose in his place and without any qualification whatever stated his absolute opposition to this whole Bill. He was followed a moment afterwards by our distinguished friend from Ottawa (Hon. Mr. Belcourt) who in terse words practically demanded that the Government withdraw this Bill. I happen to know the mind of some other honourable gentlemen on the front benches to the left of the leader of this House, and they are no more in sympathy with this legislation than the ones I have mentioned. So that it cannot be said with any degree of truth that all the opposition to this Bill comes from this side of the House.

When objection was taken by the leader of the Opposition to this Bill the leader of the Government said, "Pick out your lines and we will deal with them separately." I do not think that was a very creditable suggestion for my honourable friend to make, because he knows that we do not govern this country: we were relieved of that responsibility a year or two ago, and it has fallen into the hands of others whom he represents, and it is their business to govern this country. If any lines are to be picked out it is the Government of this country, represented in himself, who should pick out the particular lines, submit them separately to this House, and ask for our endorsement.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Well, I will ask this question of my honourable friend: suppose I brought in as many Bills as there are lines, would not the majority of this Chamber select lines that they would vote for and practically pick out those that they would prefer, and let go by the board those that they would vote against? Would not the result be the same?

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: I am very glad my honourable friend has asked me that question, and I am going to answer it, and then I am through. I am going to say that if my honourable friend is absolutely in earnest in regard to this legislation, and desires to have it passed at this Session, and desires to give that railway service at an early date to those Western people who are anxious to get it, let him follow my suggestion, and we will stay here until next week if necessary; and if I sense correctly the opinion of this side of the House, I think I can assure him that most of the lines in the province of Saskatchewan, at least, will find a favourable endorsement at the hands of members on this side of the House. I am glad he asked that

question, so that I could make that suggestion to him, because, as coming from the province of Saskatchewan, I want to place the responsibility for the defeat of the proposed legislation which would provide those lines in that province exactly where it belongs, and that is on the head of the Government of this country.

If anything should happen in the vote which is about to be taken whereby this legislation is postponed, it will not be the responsibility of members on this side of the House, but it will be that of the Government of the day, which has failed to bring down legislation in the way in which they know they should bring it down, in order to command the confidence of this House.

The proposed amendment of Hon. Sir James Loughheed was agreed to on the following division:

CONTENTS

The Honourable Messieurs:

Béique,	Lynch-Staunton,
Belcourt,	McCall,
Bénard,	McDonald,
Bennett,	McLennan,
Black,	McMeans,
Blain,	Montplaisir,
Blondin,	Mulholland,
Boyer,	Poirier,
Casgrain,	Pope,
Chapais,	Reid,
Crowe,	Robertson,
Daniel,	Ross (Middleton),
David,	Schaffner,
Fisher,	Sharpe,
Foster,	Smith,
Foster (Sir George),	Stanfield,
Fowler,	Tanner,
Gillis,	Taylor,
Gordon,	Todd,
Green,	Webster (Brockville),
Griesbach,	Webster (Stadacona),
Kemp (Sir Edward),	White (Pembroke),
Laird,	Willoughby—47.
Loughheed (Sir James),	

NON-CONTENTS

The Honourable Messieurs:

Dandurand,	Roche,
Farrell,	Ross (Moose Jaw),
Harmer,	Thibaudeau,
Lavergne,	Turriff,
McHugh,	Watson—10.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: I am paired with the honourable member from the Gulf (Hon. Mr. L'Espérance). Had I voted I would have voted against the amendment.

PENSION BILL

THIRD READING

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND moved the third reading of Bill 205, an Act to amend the Pension Act.