

ventions of 1912, 1925 and 1931, and, secondly, to strengthen police efforts to repress the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

The draft before the conference was the result of two years' preparatory work initiated by the opium advisory committee. A first draft had been submitted to all governments signatory to the opium conventions in 1934. Their observations and criticisms were taken into consideration in preparing a revised draft which was circulated in 1935. It was only after this thorough canvass of the competent national authorities had established the expediency of endeavouring to draw up an international convention that the decision to hold the special conference was taken.

The Canadian government was represented at this conference by Colonel C. H. L. Sharman, chief of the narcotics division, Department of Pensions and National Health, who is also the Canadian representative on the opium advisory committee and who had taken an active part in the preparatory discussions of the draft convention.

The convention requires ratification. It will enter into force ninety days after the secretary general of the league has received the ratifications or accessions of ten states.

It has been signed on behalf of thirty-two countries and ratification has been completed, up to date, by India, China and Belgium.

When parliament has approved the convention the governor in council will authorize ratification.

I do not know that I need say much more. If hon. members wish to know the main provisions of the convention I can give them by quoting one or two of its articles. The convention itself has been distributed among hon. members, and that may not, therefore, be necessary.

Motion agreed to.

JUDGES ACT AMENDMENT

PROVISION FOR ANNUITIES ON RETIREMENT AND REDUCTION OF SALARIES OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES RETAINING OFFICE AFTER AGE OF SEVENTY-FIVE

Hon. CHARLES A. DUNNING (for the Minister of Justice) moved that the house go into committee of the whole at the next sitting to consider the following proposed resolution:

That it is expedient to amend the Judges Act to provide certain annuities upon retirement, to judges of the Supreme Court of

Canada, the Exchequer Court of Canada, and the superior courts, and for reduction in the salaries of superior court judges retaining office after reaching the age of seventy-five years.

He said: His Excellency the Governor General, having been made acquainted with the subject matter of this resolution, recommends it to the favourable consideration of the house.

Motion agreed to.

BANK OF CANADA

ACQUISITION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SHARES NOW IN HANDS OF THE PUBLIC

Hon. CHARLES A. DUNNING (Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following proposed resolution:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Bank of Canada Act inter alia to provide for the redemption by the Bank of Canada of the 100,000 class "A" shares of the Bank of Canada of the par value of \$50 each at the price of \$59.20 per share and accrued dividends; to reduce the capital of the Bank of Canada from \$10,100,000 to \$5,000,000 divided into 100,000 shares of \$50 each; and to authorize the Minister of Finance for the purposes of such redemption and reduction of capital to surrender to the Bank of Canada 102,000 class "B" shares of the Bank of Canada of the par value of \$50 each, of which 2,000 shares shall be cancelled and 100,000 shares shall be exchanged for 100,000 new shares of \$50 each to be issued by the Bank of Canada to the Minister of Finance and to pay to the Bank of Canada the additional amount necessary to pay the difference between the purchase price of the shares to be redeemed (excluding any amount paid by way of dividend) and their par value.

He said: His Excellency the Governor General, having been made acquainted with the subject matter of this resolution, recommends it to the favourable consideration of the house.

Motion agreed to.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MOTION FOR COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): It will be observed that in to-day's orders of the day, under government orders, there does not appear the usual item, "House again in committee of supply." This is due to the circumstance that the committee of supply was compelled to rise yesterday for want of a quorum and consequently did not report progress nor ask leave to sit again. A motion must now be made