

*Public Service Retirement Act*

Resolved, That it is expedient to provide that the operation of the Public Service Retirement Act shall be extended until the thirty-first day of March, 1925, and that the said act shall be deemed not to have expired and ceased to be in force after the first day of July, 1924, but to have continued and to be in force for all purposes thereof whatsoever until the thirty-first day of March, 1925.

Motion agreed to and the House went into committee, Mr. Gordon in the chair.

Mr. MEIGHEN: The first question is purely a matter of detail. Why is the minister choosing a fraction of the year instead of a year for the period of extension?

Mr. ROBB: This afternoon the Civil Service Superannuation bill was reported from the committee of the House. The bill based upon this resolution will run until the 31st of March, 1925, but if the Superannuation bill, having got its third reading in this House, passes the Senate, then we will have this bill amended to provide for extension of the Public Service Retirement Act until the first of November of this year to correspond with the other act.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Is that the date when the Superannuation Act takes effect?

Mr. ROBB: No, the Superannuation Act will take effect as soon as it is assented to. But we will allow employees until the first of November to decide which of these acts they will take advantage of, the Calder Act or the Superannuation Act.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I would think it would be well to allow a longer time than that.

Mr. ROBB: We could determine that afterwards. We proposed in the bill as it would come down to let the act run to the 31st of March, but that might be modified.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I would permit it to run to the 31st of March in any event. I suggest that the word "and" should be "or" in the first line on page 13, if there is need of both expressions, namely "expired" and "ceased to be in force." If there is no need of both, one would do, but if there is need of both, then the word "and" should certainly be "or." I do not suppose both terms are necessary. I would say that "ceased to be in force" is quite sufficient, but if there is any difference in meaning between the two then certainly the word "and" should be "or."

Mr. ROBB: I think my hon. friend is right, and I move that the resolution be amended accordingly.

Amendment agreed to.

[Mr. Robb.]

Resolution reported, read the second time and concurred in. Mr. Robb thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 227 to amend the Public Service Retirement Act.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

## IMMIGRATION ACT AMENDMENT

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Minister of Immigration and Colonization) moved the second reading of Bill No. 195, to amend the Immigration Act.

Mr. A. W. NEILL (Comox-Alberni): Before the motion passes I wish to call the attention of the House to one section of the bill, I think it is section 3, which gives additional powers to the minister. At the present time he has power to issue a permit authorizing any person to enter Canada, and he now seeks to take further power to allow any person who has entered or landed in Canada to remain there. I think that is too much power and too great an extension of the already very extensive powers possessed by the minister. It is extreme enough surely to be able to say that he can allow anyone whatever, at his own sweet will, to enter Canada. It is surely not necessary to have it made law that anyone having entered Canada, illegally, as it may be, will be allowed to remain by application to the minister. At the very least I would suggest that the word "legally" should be inserted so that it would read, "having legally entered or landed in Canada."

I think also the bill should contain the provision that we find in so many other acts, that within ten days or a limited time after the opening of the session, the minister shall present to parliament a statement showing the number of people who have been allowed in under this clause and the particulars concerning them. But as the section reads now I protest against it, and I will endeavour to move an amendment in committee dealing with it. It may be made possible under that to allow any number of people who have entered Canada illegally to remain here by the mere expression of the will of the minister or of one of his deputies. What brings the matter more particularly home in this connection is this: I wish to call the attention of the House to what occurred in Nova Scotia this spring. In answer to questions in the House by the hon. member, for Centre Winnipeg (Mr. Woodsworth), we were told on the 28th of April that the British Empire Steel Corporation had brought in 105 Chinamen to work on six of their boats trading between five named