

the band's property—funds and land. Surely this is logic, that nobody in this country is entitled to be given special protection, special assistance and special supervision, to be taken by the hand and helped on the way, unless owing to some natural disability he is not able to make his way alone. Surely no honourable member will say that if Indians are incurably lazy and lack a spirit of citizenship, no matter how thoroughly able they are to make their own way, they are to be allowed to remain in their present state of tutelage for all time to come.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: Under their treaty rights they are entitled to continue as they are.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: No, they are not. In fact, the Indian Act provides that if they have treaty rights, such rights shall not be overridden by the statute; consequently the court will enforce the treaty. We are taking away from the Indians nothing that the treaty gives them. He who opposes this Bill is in the position of saying that as long as the Indian is prepared to submerge his independence and enjoy the pleasant, warm atmosphere of Government wardship, the question of his competence for citizenship does not matter at all—we are ready to continue this state of tutelage indefinitely. I feel rather strongly because while Superintendent General of Indian Affairs I came in contact with the problem year after year. If we are prepared to hear all the Indians who would like to be heard on this measure, we shall unite this session with the next. Not only are many of the Indians competent to take care of themselves, but they are able to argue interminably.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: We have had them before our special committees.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Yes. I have listened to them by the hour. But when an Indian has the ability of mind and body to look after himself, what argument, aside from any treaty rights, can persuade honourable members that we are still under obligation to continue him in a state of tutelage?

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

#### PRIVATE BILL

##### SECOND READING

The Hon. the SPEAKER: I am informed that the fees have been paid on the Bill presented before the Orders of the Day, intituled "An Act to incorporate the Discount and Loan Corporation of Canada."

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN.

Hon. Mr. MARCOTTE: With the leave of the Senate, I move that Rule 23f be suspended and that the Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I confess that I have not read the Bill and do not know whether it contains the standard clauses that generally appear in such Bills. However, inasmuch as it is a private Bill, and in giving it the second reading we are not bound by any principle, we can leave it to the tender mercies of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

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

#### SUSPENSION OF RULE

Hon. Mr. MARCOTTE: I now move that rule 119 be suspended in so far as it relates to this Bill.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: What is the rule?

Hon. Mr. MARCOTTE: The rule provides that notice of the sitting of the Committee must be posted for one week before the Committee considers the Bill.

The motion was agreed to.

#### INCOME WAR TAX BILL

##### THIRD READING POSTPONED

On the Order for the third reading of Bill 96, an Act to amend the Income War Tax Act:

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Honourable members, I desire to have this Bill referred to Committee of the Whole. I think the better way would be to have the Bill stand for the present, and taken up later in the day.

The Order stands.

#### POST OFFICE BILL

##### THIRD READING

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved the third reading of Bill 98, an Act to amend the Post Office Act.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I suppose there are no apologies to be made?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: No.

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: We had them yesterday.

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