

ject on a previous occasion, the Bill was referred to the committee on Banking and Commerce. I would suggest to the hon. gentleman that it cannot make any great difference because if the Bill went to the Banking and Commerce committee it might constitute another smaller committee to make a special study of the matter. If that were done we would have the advantage of a special study of the matter by a smaller committee and also the advantage of the examination of the whole question by the Banking and Commerce committee before it came back to this House. I do not want to be very insistent upon my suggestion but if it met with the approval of the hon. gentleman I think that would be as good a way as this bill could be dealt with.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: I hope the Minister of Justice will not insist upon the Banking and Commerce Committee. I do not know how that committee is constituted at the present time, but I think if this Bill is to be considered by a committee at all it should go before a select committee. It will require the almost constant work 9 pm. of a committee for more than a month, perhaps more than two months, to go over its provisions; in fact, I should not be surprised if the committee appointed were unable to report at this session. I think it would be unwise to place the Bill before a general committee; I think it really should go before a select committee and I hope the minister will agree to that.

Mr. DOHERTY: Perhaps we might allow the Bill to have its second reading with the understanding that, of course, we are not binding ourselves to anything in it and with the further understanding that it will be referred to a committee. Perhaps we can come to some arrangement as to what is the best way to deal with the matter.

Motion agreed to and Bill read the second time.

INSURANCE ACT AMENDMENT.

On the motion for the second reading of Bill No. 45, to amend the Insurance Act.

Mr. W. H. BENNETT (Simcoe): I would ask that the order be dropped, reserving the right to re-introduce the Bill. The terms of it are not in accordance with the wishes of the parties interested. I beg to move, therefore, that the order be discharged.

Motion agreed to and order discharged.

DOMINION LANDS ACT AMENDMENT.

On the motion for the second reading of Bill No. 12, to amend the Dominion Lands Act.

Mr. G. E. McCRANEY (Saskatoon): Mr. Speaker, I have been advised that as this Bill purports to deal with property belonging to the Crown, it will be necessary to have the approval of the Governor General. I ask your ruling on that point, and if your ruling is to the effect that the assent of the Governor General is necessary I will move for leave to withdraw the Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think there is no question that the purpose of this Bill is to dispose of the property of the Crown. While it is perfectly competent for an hon. gentleman to introduce a Bill of this kind, and while there would be no objection to the Bill having its second reading, it cannot receive its third reading without the consent of the Crown. Unless that consent is forthcoming there is no object in proceeding further with the Bill.

Mr. McCRANEY: In pursuance of your ruling, Mr. Speaker, I move that leave be granted to withdraw the Bill.

Motion agreed to and Bill withdrawn.

THE SOLDIER SETTLEMENT BOARD.

On the motion of Hon. W. J. Roche, for the House to go into Committee to consider the following proposed resolution:

That it is expedient to establish a board, to be called "The Soldier Settlement Board," consisting of three commissioners, and to provide for salaries and expenses in connection therewith, and to empower the Minister of the Interior, at the request of the board, to reserve such Dominion lands as may be required, and upon the recommendation of the board, to grant a free entry for not more than one hundred and sixty acres of such reserved lands to any person who has served in the naval or military expeditionary forces of the United Kingdom or of any of the self-governing British dominions or colonies, and who has left the forces with an honourable record or who has been honourably discharged, and the widow of any such person who died on active service, subject to such conditions as in the opinion of the Governor in Council are necessary to secure the use of the land for the purpose for which it is granted; and further to provide that the board may loan, upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed, to any such settler an amount not exceeding two thousand dollars for acquiring land for agricultural purposes, payment of encumbrances on lands used for agricultural purposes, improvement of agricultural lands, erection of farm buildings and purchase of stock, machinery and equipment, the money to be ex-