

munications from municipalities and individuals, but he made no reference whatever to communications from governments. Could he tell me now whether there have been any communications from any of the provinces, and if so, whether we may get copies of those communications at an early moment?

Mr. BENNETT: My memory is that the Minister of Labour (Senator Robertson) did advise the several provinces that a meeting was being held of a statutory body created by order in council to consider the question of unemployment, and that one, if not three, of the governments sent representatives to that conference. I am only speaking from memory; I will look up the correspondence which I have not before me.

PENSION TRIBUNAL APPOINTMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. L. RALSTON (Shelburne-Yarmouth): I notice that the hon. Prime Minister says that no appointments have been made to the pensions tribunals. The Pensions Appeal Court, I presume, covers that as well?

Mr. BENNETT: Yes.

Mr. RALSTON: I might ask the hon. Minister of Pensions and National Health (Mr. MacLaren) whether in order to carry out the non-partisan attitude of the committee which recommended these pension tribunals and the appointment of a Pensions Appeal Court, the government would consider consulting some such similar committee with regard to the selection of the personnel?

Hon. MURRAY MacLAREN (Minister of Pensions and National Health): I am not clear what other committee the hon. gentleman refers to. Would he make his question a little clearer?

Mr. RALSTON: I said a committee composed of representatives of all parties in this house similar to that which was appointed last session.

Mr. BENNETT: The government makes the appointments and accepts the responsibility in doing so.

Mr. LAPOINTE: That is what Mussolini says.

Mr. BENNETT: That is what we say.

Mr. MANION: That is what the act says, and you framed the act.

[Mr. King.]

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. J. GARLAND (Bow River): I desire to ask the leader of the government (Mr. Bennett) whether he has any proposals to submit to the imperial economic conference; and will those proposals be discussed by this house before the conference takes place?

Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): I have already answered the question which the right hon. gentleman asked as to whether or not any suggestions had been made by this administration. I said that there had not been any and that up to the moment any communications received, so far as I know from looking through the files, are marked "secret and confidential," and that without the permission of the ministers who sent the communications I had no authority to lay them on the table.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): I am afraid the hon. gentleman did not understand my question. My question is: Has the government at the present time any proposals to submit to the coming imperial economic conference, and will the government, before going to the conference, allow this house to discuss those proposals?

Mr. BENNETT: The usual practice will be followed in that regard.

RADIO LICENCES

Mr. J. S. WOODSWORTH (Winnipeg North Centre): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Marine (Mr. Duranleau). Under the last administration, owing to the fact that no action was taken on the Aird report, assurances were given that no new licences would be issued. I should like to know whether licences are to be issued in the future, or whether the former policy of the department will be adhered to.

Hon. ALFRED DURANLEAU (Minister of Marine): Since the report of the commission was submitted I understand that the policy has been to leave in abeyance any requests for licences. So far the government has taken no steps with reference to the issuing of licences. We hope to have the matter discussed very shortly, and, if we deem it advisable, to have licences issued with the proviso that if the state should take possession of all stations, incurring expenses in connection therewith, it will do so at its own expense. However, I can assure the house that no steps have been taken yet in the direction of issuing licences.