

of other long-service pension plans of the government. The committee included representatives of the three services—the Financial Superintendent of the Department of National Defence, the Director of the Superannuation Division of the Department of Finance, members of the staff of the Treasury Board—and was presided over by the Superintendent of Insurance.

Sections 1 to 5 bring up to date the provisions of the Militia Pension Act so as to permit time served on active service during the present war to be included in the pensionable term of service of persons appointed to the permanent force prior to April 1, 1946; and also to provide for minor amendments necessary because of certain administrative changes in the naval service.

The remaining section adds part V. This is new, and applies to all persons joining the permanent force after March 31, 1946, and to all those in the permanent force prior to that date who elect to come under the new pension scheme. It provides that these persons shall contribute a percentage of their pay and allowances towards making good the specified pensions, gratuities, and allowances. It also provides for the payment of allowances and gratuities to dependents. Its main feature is the extension of the benefits of the Militia Pension Act to other ranks besides officers and warrant officers. In general, part V conforms in principle to the Civil Service Superannuation Act, with such modifications as were necessary to fit the peculiar circumstances of the armed services.

It has been brought to my attention that the Law Clerk is of opinion that certain changes in phraseology would materially improve the bill. If it meets with the approval of honourable senators, I would suggest that after second reading the bill be referred to the Banking and Commerce Committee, not only for the purpose of considering the Law Clerk's suggestions, but also in order that officers of the department may be in attendance to answer in detail any points on which you may require further information.

Hon. Mr. C. C. BALLANTYNE: Am I to infer from the remarks of the leader of the government that if we give the bill second reading now we are presumed to have approved its principle; or is it understood that we reserve our full rights in this respect?

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: I think that would be a perfectly reasonable position for any honourable senator to take.

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

63268—49½

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON moved that the bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.

THE SENATE

Wednesday, August 28, 1946.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

BANKING AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE—VISIT OF FIELD MARSHAL MONTGOMERY

On the motion to adjourn:

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Honourable senators, before we adjourn I would remind the house that the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce will meet at 3.45 this afternoon. That hour has been set in order to accommodate members who may care to participate in or witness the greeting to Field Marshal Montgomery.

I wish to take this opportunity of apologizing to the members of the committee for the reference to them of such a mass of legislation, and at the same time to express thanks for their careful and continuous attention to it. For some time they have been holding three meetings a day—morning, afternoon and evening. According to the best information I have, there is every possibility that the other house will complete its work by the end of this week, and I believe honourable senators will approve if the Senate also can finish its work so as to make possible the prorogation of parliament by that time.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.

THE SENATE

Thursday, August 29, 1946.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.