

they carry with them an opportunity of domination too great to be left to private individuals without injury to the community at large.

I submit that the private control of credit gives opportunity of domination too great to be left to private individuals, and that it has been exercised to the detriment of the community at large.

Motion (Mr. Rhodes) agreed to; bill read the second time and referred to the select standing committee on banking and commerce.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

INSPECTION, VETERINARY AND MARINE PERSONNEL —PENSIONS—DUTIES AND OFFENCES OF MEMBERS OF FORCE

Hon. HUGH GUTHRIE (Minister of Justice) moved that the house go into committee to consider the following proposed resolution:

Resolved,—that, it is expedient to amend the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act to provide for the appointment of detective inspectors, sub-inspectors and assistant veterinary surgeons, and the personnel of the marine section, and to provide for pensions to widows and allowances to children of officers and constables who may be killed while in the performance of duty, and to make further provisions respecting the counting of service of officers and constables with any provincial police force for purposes of pension, and in regard to the duties and offences of the members of the force.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Smith (Cumberland) in the chair.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Perhaps I had better offer a word of explanation upon this resolution. This resolution and the bill founded upon it relate to the interior organization and discipline of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Let me say at the outset that there is little or no increase in the annual expenditure involved. There is some rearrangement, and I should add that in respect to the last clause of the resolution there may be a slight expenditure involved, and for that reason the resolution was duly submitted to His Excellency.

In the first place it is proposed to create a new classification to be known as detective inspectors. There is a detective force in connection with the police, and men who have served in it for a considerable time think they are entitled to a step in rank; they will be called detective inspectors. Then there is another class, subinspectors, and another, assistant veterinary surgeons. When the act was drawn, through an oversight the rank of

assistant veterinary surgeon was omitted. There are only two assistant veterinary surgeons in Canada, one in Regina and one in Ottawa, and they desire to have their rank recognized.

Next is a provision in regard to the marine section. That section is of considerable importance in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. There are in the marine section now, of officers, 34, and of other ratings, 169. Some 30 vessels are operated and 77 power boats. These are scattered in the Arctic, east and west, in police work and on the Atlantic and Pacific seaboards, chiefly in the preventive service of the customs. There has not heretofore been an establishment laid down for the marine section.

The next provision is in regard to payment to the dependents of officers and constables who may be killed while in the performance of duty in the force. Heretofore it has been customary when such misfortunes have occurred to vote a sum in the estimates and carry it on for subsequent years. The proposal in the resolution is that where an officer or constable is killed on active service his widow or dependents will be entitled to one half the sum he would have been entitled to by way of pension, instead of the annual vote which we have heretofore made in the House of Commons.

Mr. HOWDEN: How long will that continue?

Mr. GUTHRIE: It will continue during the lifetime of his widow and until his children reach the age of, I think, sixteen—I am not sure of the age.

The last clause is to cover the case of a few men who at one time served in the various provincial police forces. If my memory serves me aright there are only seven, or perhaps it is eleven, involved. When agreements were made between the various provinces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police under which the policing of the provinces was taken over by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, it was arranged that members of provincial forces who were taken in, should for the purposes of pension come under the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Pension system. But there was a small number of men who had been taken in before the amalgamation, who had served previously in provincial police forces; the last clause makes provision to include that small number of men in the pension scheme of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. In that respect there will be a little increase in expense, but it is very slight in-