

EVIDENCE

APRIL 21, 1953

11.30 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have before us this morning Bill No. 334, An Act to Provide for the Superannuation of Persons Employed in the Public Service of Canada.

I thought it would be helpful to the committee if this meeting were treated as an organization meeting and we would have a general statement from the deputy minister, outlining in broad lines the terms of the Act. We would then adjourn until 3.30 this afternoon and continue in more detail, followed by the hearing of representatives of different societies, many of whom have expressed a wish for a hearing.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Might I raise one point, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. FRASER: What are the names of the societies which you mention?

The CHAIRMAN: The Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada; The Civil Service Association of Ottawa; The Department of Veterans Affairs Employees National Association; a representative from the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys; the Canadian Legion; and one or two private individuals.

I thought we would have a general discussion after Mr. Taylor has made his presentation, as to whether you wish to hear any private individuals. My own feeling is that we should perhaps be content to hear representations by the organizations with fairly substantial membership.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Could I raise a question about that, Mr. Chairman? My difficulty is caused by the overlapping of committees. It so happens that the Defence Expenditures committee was called for this very moment, and I believe there is to be a meeting of the broadcasting committee this afternoon at 3.30. It so happens that Mr. Fleming and others are concerned in both of those committees. I realize that there are going to be a number of meetings of this committee and that it will be difficult to avoid any overlapping. But could you not do your very best to get hours which will suit everybody? The cure may be worse than the disease, but Mondays, Fridays, and Wednesdays too, are days when there are not so many meetings of committees. Tuesdays and Thursdays are full days.

Mr. RICHARD: I agree with you.

Mr. MACDONNELL: I do not know how far you can go, but today it is hitting a lot of people who want to be present, because this bill deals with a very, very important matter.

The CHAIRMAN: I understand that the Defence Expenditures committee is meeting this morning, and I realize that some members of our committee want to be there and do not want to miss the work which we have to do.

Mr. Taylor has been kind enough to have mimeographed copies made of the presentation which he will make this morning. Those copies will be distributed immediately so that any member who wants to go to the Defence Expenditures committee may go with a free conscience, taking a copy with him.