

Mr. MALCOLM: No. The committee considered that while the provision in regard to the ten year period might be advisable in the case of new entrants to the service it was not satisfactory for those already in the service, who had gone through a period of low salaries. The committee therefore thought it advisable to make it five years in the case of these civil servants, provision to that effect being contained in section 16.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Is there any reason for making the distinction between the two classes? Salaries usually have regard to the cost of living.

Mr. MALCOLM: Civil servants during the past few years have been receiving a low rate of salary which has been supplemented by bonus.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I have the point.

Section agreed to.

On section 7—Gratuity when yearly allowance not earned.

Mr. ROBB: If the civil servant retires within a period of less than ten years he gets one month for each year of service.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Subsection 1 provides for the civil servant—  
—if he is required to retire on marriage—

What does that mean?

Mr. MALCOLM: Female employees are of course compelled to retire on marriage.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Then why not say "she"?

Mr. MALCOLM: For the purposes of the act the pronoun "he" is used throughout.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I was wondering whether under some new government regulations particular male civil servants were going to be required to retire on getting married, and it seemed extraordinary.

Mr. CHEVRIER: The pronoun "he" is used simply for the sake of conformity.

Section agreed to.

On section 9—Report by the Treasury Board.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Certain changes are made in this section.

Mr. ROBB: It was considered that a person who might at the present time be deemed unworthy of the benefits of the act might later on be thought to merit its provisions.

The original section provided only for entire disallowance but the amendment will permit of suspension and later on, if it be deemed advisable, the restoration of the benefits of the act.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What is the reason for enacting such a provision at all? If a man has paid his 5 per cent for years he should be entitled to his annuity and I do not see why we should withhold it from him.

Mr. McBRIDE: If a man were in gaol for a term of years the government would not want to pay him during his incarceration.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I can understand that; is that what the section is intended to cover?

Mr. McGIVERIN: The committee thought that it would be rather anomalous for contributions to be going from the  
5 p.m. public treasury to a man who was confined in gaol for bad conduct; and other things might be objectionable in his moral conduct. We therefore give power for the discontinuance of the gratuity and its restoration if that is deemed advisable.

Mr. LEWIS: What about the wife and children of a man who is in gaol?

Mr. MALCOLM: It is left to the discretion of the Governor in Council.

Section agreed to.

On section 10—Retirement compulsory.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Suppose a civil servant proves to be just as valuable to the country at seventy as he was at fifty, I suppose the government is retaining the right to continue his services?

Mr. ROBB: That is provided for in subsection 2.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What is the reason for the further limitation in subsection 2—

But no such extension shall be granted after the expiration of ten years from the date of the coming into force of this act.

Mr. ROBB: The superintendent tells me that the committee had this under consideration. Later on the act will operate automatically at seventy years. I am bound to say, having regard to some men I know in the service, that the matter might be left for all time to the discretion of the government.

Mr. MALCOLM: We are following in this respect the wishes of the civil servants themselves, who were all of the view that a man should retire at seventy.