

Miss LAMARSH: Yes. There is no amendment, of course, under the old age security portion reflecting the flat rate payment.

There is one other comment I would like to make in respect of Mr. Knowles' remarks. I have not discussed this yet with my officials, because I have not had the opportunity, but I was somewhat struck, in his discussion in the house, by the comment that there appeared to be a way to opt out but not a way to opt in. It seems that this point is well taken. A provision very usefully might be put in, or it might be—although I do not expect at this time that you might have ten provinces to start with—that this could be sort of a useless appendage like the provision to lower pensions as the cost of living index goes down, and that it is not necessary to have it in.

Mr. KNOWLES: A province may opt out and then, having reassessed the situation, later might decide to come in.

Miss LAMARSH: I think it is a good suggestion and this may be a matter for consideration by the members of the committee when they have the draft bill before them.

Mr. CHATTERTON: Mr. Chairman, the minister made a general statement with regard to the proposed amendments to the act. When we come to clause 6 we will have to decide whether or not a civil servant should be included, and before we make that decision I think we should have the details of the proposed amendments to the Superannuation Act and the effect of such changes on the superannuation fund. Would the minister undertake to have such information available?

Miss LAMARSH: Mr. Clark, the official of the Department of Finance, is in this room now, and I wish you well with him; I have heard him explain this now about six times, and I have not got it yet.

Mr. CHATTERTON: I think at least we should have the draft bill in respect of the superannuation plan so that the civil servants and we will have this knowledge.

Miss LAMARSH: You will not have a draft bill, but the proposal the government has is one which will require no greater contribution from the civil servants than at present and we will give them a slightly better benefit than they have.

Mr. CHATTERTON: I asked whether we could have a report at least on the effect of the proposed amendment in respect of the superannuation fund?

Mr. FRANCIS: Surely we are restricted to this bill.

Mr. CHATTERTON: Before we are in a position to make an intelligent decision, we should know what will be the effect of the amendments to the Superannuation Act.

Mr. FRANCIS: This will be before parliament. Our terms of reference do not include an investigation of the Superannuation Act.

Mr. MUNRO: I believe Mr. Chatterton was present yesterday when the deputy minister named all the officials who would appear before this committee to go into the whole question of integration, not only generally, but with reference to civil servants in particular. I believe he indicated that almost immediately after the clause by clause study we would be going into all the information required of a specific nature; in other words, that would be the appropriate time to take this up.

Mr. CHATTERTON: I think it is up to the minister to indicate that she at least would ask the Minister of Finance whether he could make this information available to us and also ask the same minister to have his officials here before this committee to make available this economic report which Mr. Willard mentioned last night.