

Mr. GUTHRIE: My hon. friend may be right; I thought it had been preceded by a resolution.

Mr. LAPOINTE: I believe this bill is of such a nature that it should have been preceded by a resolution because, in effect, it involves the expenditure of money out of the public treasury. The purpose of the bill is to extend to certain men provisions for pension which do not apply to them under the present law. In my view it is certainly in the nature of a money bill.

Mr. GUTHRIE: My recollection was that the matter had been brought to the attention of the house by resolution. However, I may be wrong in that assumption. The main object of the bill is to provide that the Dominion government shall be recouped by the province of Saskatchewan for the amount which the federal government will pay out under the former agreement made in the year 1928.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Yes, but we have to pay out first.

Mr. GUTHRIE: We accepted the obligation in 1928 under the agreement of that date. At that time, however, the figures were not worked out. Now we know definitely that the proposal affects four officers and fifty-five men, and this bill providing for the payment by the province of Saskatchewan to the Dominion of Canada is necessary to provide for the pensions of these men under the pension scheme of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

On looking up the record I find that the bill was not introduced by resolution; I now recollect the occurrence. However, if objection is taken—

Mr. LAPOINTE: No, I just wanted to draw the attention of the minister to that fact; I do not press the objection.

Mr. GUTHRIE: The objection is of a purely technical nature, but if it is not pressed I would prefer to proceed in the present manner.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time, and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury) in the chair.

On section 1—Arrangements with local governments.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): May I ask if this bill has reference merely to the service rendered prior to the transfer of these men

from the provincial force to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and whether that is the only portion of their service for which there will be responsibility for gratuity?

Mr. GUTHRIE: Yes.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): And it will be paid by the provincial government?

Mr. GUTHRIE: Yes.

Section agreed to.

Section 2 agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time, and passed.

SUPPLY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury) in the chair.

Public Works—Quebec, \$1,076,900.

Hon. H. A. STEWART (Minister of Public Works): When the committee arose I was asked to provide certain information, and item number 185 was left open for that purpose, following the requests of the hon. member for Antigonish-Guysborough (Mr. Duff) and the hon. member for Gloucester (Mr. Veniot). I was asked for certain information as to expenditures and appropriations on buildings and I am now prepared to give that information.

Mr. VENIOT: I agree that when the item was up I did request that it be allowed to stand, in case I would have something to ask in connection with it. I am perfectly satisfied now, however, that the item as it appears is correct.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I shall give the information requested by the hon. member.

Mr. DUFF: Has my hon. friend a copy of the information from which he is about to read? It will be impossible for me to follow it, I am afraid, if I have not that information before me.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I will see if I have another copy; at any rate, I shall see that as soon as possible my hon. friend receives a copy.

Mr. DUFF: I would like to have it immediately.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): My hon. friend will have an opportunity to discuss the information I shall give him when we reach some other item.

Mr. DUFF: But I prefer to discuss it now.