

*Unemployment*

railway has recently financed a bond issue and is paying off a loan which is guaranteed. Obviously that would not be renewed. I can remember the guarantees to the Algoma Steel and the Dominion Steel with respect to the production of steel rails. Under this section the dominion government would have power to renew. Obviously, when once a guarantee has been given the government of the day must be provided with the ordinary business facilities for renewing from time to time as the necessities of the case may properly require, for collecting or for having the guarantee discharge as the situation may permit. Of course, the intention of the section is to apply mainly to loans which have been made to provinces and secured, as I indicated a few moments ago, by twelve months' treasury bills of the provinces concerned. I can assure my hon. friend that it is the intention of the government to secure repayment wherever it is practicable to do so, whether the debtor be a province or a corporation or with respect to guarantees, to get the obligation discharged at as early a date as possible by the party guaranteed. I doubt very much whether it would be advisable or desirable to say out of hand that all guarantees now existing should be cancelled forthwith. Therefore there is a necessity for some machinery whereby the government may have discretion with respect to the renewal of them.

Mr. POULIOT: Just one more word about section 5. Some years ago we heard a lot about the legacy that came to the previous government in 1930, but the legacy that this government got from the previous government was not a blank cheque; it was a promissory note. The blank cheque turned into a promissory note which the country has to pay. In my humble view we have no lesson to learn from the opposition as to how this country should be governed. They should consider their own achievements. They were fine achievements—a promissory note! This section does not cover the whole amount of that promissory note. I do not know how it is to be paid, but I hope it will be paid some day. It is to the shame of the government of that day that such legislation has to be passed.

Section agreed to.

Sections 6 to 10 inclusive agreed to.

On section 11—Duration of act.

Mr. GARDINER: I should like to move an amendment to section 11, that after the word "expiration" in the last line of this section there should be inserted the words "of the aforesaid provisions."

[Mr. Dunning.]

Mr. BENNETT: I was going to suggest that to except section 5 from the operation of the repealing provisions is not very sound. Would it not be better to enact section 5 as a separate act and provide that the act generally shall cease to exist on March 31, 1937, except as to section 5? With the amendment the section reads:

All the provisions of this act, except such as are contained in section five and in this section, shall expire on the thirty-first day of March, 1937, but any obligation or liability incurred or created under the authority of this act may be paid and discharged notwithstanding the expiration of the aforesaid provisions of this act on the said date.

I think that meets it.

Mr. ROGERS: That is taken from the act of last year.

Mr. BENNETT: Those words meet that situation.

Mr. POULIOT: I should like to ask the government if it is possible for hon. members to obtain copies of bills after they have passed both houses. It is quite easy to obtain one or two copies of bills before they are passed, but as soon as they become law it is impossible to obtain copies of the legislation with all amendments without paying something to the printing bureau. It seems to me that a member should be entitled to copies of the laws as soon as they become law. These should be available before they appear in the statute books.

Mr. BENNETT: I really think the language of the suggested amendment leaves much to be desired. The law officers of the crown are not here, but if they will look at the amendment they will see that the section reads "may be paid and discharged notwithstanding the expiration of the aforesaid provisions of this act." "Aforesaid provisions" would cover all preceding sections.

Mr. McGEER: What is the reason for terminating the act next year?

Mr. BENNETT: The rule has been that relief acts shall be in force only for the year ending March 31. They have been formulated on that basis.

Mr. McGEER: Why?

Mr. BENNETT: That is the end of the fiscal year. They were renewed from time to time before March 31 so that parliament might deal with the matter.

Mr. POULIOT: Before this legislation passes, may I remind the committee that I am still opposed to every enactment passed