

Mr. ARCHAMBAULT: They can always refuse to act.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Doherty moves:

That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting Their Honours with the non-concurrence of this House in the amendments made by the Senate by the addition of sub-clauses 4 and 5 to Bill No. 60, an Act to Amend the Judges Act.

Motion agreed to.

ANIMAL CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACT

On the motion of Hon. Mr. Tolmie Bill No. 136 to amend the Animal Contagious Diseases Act was read a second time and the House went into committee thereon. Mr. Boivin in the Chair.

On Clause 1—Operation of provision for compensation extended for three years.

Mr. McKENZIE: Is this Bill retroactive in its effect, and if so why?

Mr. TOLMIE: In 1918 certain sums were fixed as compensation for animals destroyed, but the Bill was made operative for only three years, from May 24, 1918. That time will expire on May 24 next, and it is necessary that we should extend the operation of the Act for three years longer, making the period six years instead of three. No change is being made in the amount of compensation paid; the period of payment is simply extended for another three years.

Mr. McKENZIE: I thought from reading the section that it was retroactive.

Section agreed to.

Bill reported, and read the third time and passed.

PRISONS AND REFORMATORIES

On motion of Right Hon. C. J. Doherty (Minister of Justice) Bill No. 35 to amend the Prisons and Reformatories Act was read the second time and the House went into committee thereon, Mr. Boivin in the Chair.

On section 1—age limits of boys and girls raised from 16 to 18.

Mr. DOHERTY: I desire to make an addition to this section. Its purpose is to make susceptible of being dealt with as juveniles in reformatories young persons of both sexes up to the age of 18 years; the present limit is 16 years. My own

observation and the widespread representations I have received have convinced me of the necessity of this modification. On the other hand, it has been pointed out that the reformatory institutions of the provinces are not at present prepared to deal with this additional class of criminals, and persons quite competent to speak upon the subject have strongly

4 p.m. urged that until and unless proper preparations be made there may be danger to the younger inmates of those reformatories from association with those older boys and girls; in other words, that in order to protect the latter from the possible contamination with older prisoners in the penitentiaries, we might expose the younger children in the reformatories to contamination from these older boys and girls. In order to try to conciliate the two views, and to make provision for proper preparation being made for the reception of the class of criminals in question, I beg to move to amend section 1 by adding thereto as sub-section 2 thereof, the following words:

This section shall only come into operation in such province or provinces as the Governor in Council may from time to time by proclamation prescribe.

This amendment will enable us to know that there are suitable institutions for this class of prisoners to be sent to before this law comes into force in a particular province.

Mr. McKENZIE: When we pass a criminal law do we look after the expense incident to the imprisonment of such persons as may be dealt with under its provisions?

Mr. DOHERTY: By the British North America Act the maintenance of prisons and reformatories falls on the provinces, and the maintenance of penitentiaries falls on the Dominion; it is not a matter that depends upon our legislation.

Amendment agreed to.

Section as amended agreed to.

On section 2—Part IX not to apply to Nova Scotia:

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Most of this Bill seems to have special reference to Nova Scotia. Have there been any representations in this regard on the part of the Government of Nova Scotia?

Mr. DOHERTY: The rest of the Act deals entirely with Nova Scotia, is drafted by the provincial authorities and is being enacted at their request. It is to make