

HOUSE OF COMMONS SELECTS TWENTY MEMBERS TO HELP SOLDIERS

BILL PROVIDING FOR AUTOMATIC BY-ELECTIONS CAUSES DIVISION

One of the Most Important Committees in Parliamentary Organization Appointed—Hon. J. A. Calder is Almost Certain to be Chairman—Many Other Prominent Members Named.

What will probably prove to be the most important parliamentary committee of the session was named yesterday. It is a special committee which will give consideration to the bill concerning soldiers' civil re-establishment, and before which returned men will make representations as to their needs. The bill is designed to take the place of orders-in-council passed under the War Measures Act, and which ceases to be effective with the proclamation of peace. The committee consists of Hon. J. A. Calder, who is almost certain to be its chairman, and the following 19 members:

H. B. Morphy, North Perth; Major Brien, South Essex; Col. Hugh Clark, North Bruce; Dr. Edwards, Frontenac; E. W. Nesbitt, North Oxford; F. F. Pardee, West Lambton; W. Kennedy, North Essex; Hon. Dr. Beaud, Beauce; F. Bolton, Lisgar; Dr. Chisholm, Antigonish; Col. Coopere, Vancouver; A. B. Copp, Westmoreland; Col. Lang, Humboldt; General McLean, Royal; Major Powers, Quebec South; Col. Tremaine, Hants; Thomas Tweedie, Calgary; H. H. White, Victoria; Lieut.-Col. Arthurs, Pargy Sound.

Before moving for the appointment of the committee, Hon. N. W. Rowell explained the work and record of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, and there was a general discussion.

At the evening session, second reading was given Mr. Pedlow's bill to make the second Monday in November, Armistice Day, a permanent thanksgiving day. It will be considered in committee.

Before adjournment at ten o'clock there was a division. Mr. Jacob's bill to amend the House of Commons Act by providing for automatic by-elections within sixty days after a seat becomes vacant, making election day a public holiday and other changes, was under consideration. The bill received the support of Mr. D. D. McKenzie, A. L. Davidson, of Annapolis, and Dr. Alfred Thompson, of the Yukon, moved the adjournment of the debate and the motion carried on a division of 69 to 19, a Unionist majority of 19.

Of the cross-benches, Messrs. Nesbitt and Davis, (Neepawa), voted with the Government and Messrs. Maharg, Crerar, Reid, (MacKenzie) and Johnston, (Last Mountain) and Halliday, (Bow River) with the Opposition.

Sympathy With Sir George Foster.
When the House opened yesterday afternoon Hon. C. J. Doherty expressed the sympathy of the members with Sir George Foster in the death of Lady Foster. He then moved, seconded by Mr. McKenzie, acting leader of the Opposition, that when the House adjourned it should stand adjourned until 4 p.m. Friday to enable members to attend the funeral.

Mr. Gauvreau asked if it was the intention of the Government during the present session to grant an amnesty to defaulters under the Military Service Act.

Mr. Doherty—"Announcement of my policy decided on will be made in due course."

In reply to a question by Mr. Robin, Mr. Doherty said that \$238,093 has been collected in fines imposed upon defaulters.

Replying to Mr. Archambault, Mr. Guthrie said that the Government had been paid in full for the rebreather, J. D. Hazen, transferred in 1916 to the Russian Government. Mr. Doherty asked how many

enemy aliens were still interned in Canada.

Mr. Doherty—"Eight hundred and forty-seven." Ninety-one Mr. Doherty added had been interned since the signing of the armistice.

Mr. Euler—"Is it the intention of the Government to make early disposition of the interned alien enemies in Canada?"

"Yes, 1,414 have already been repatriated."

"When may their release or repatriation be expected?" continued Mr. Euler.

"Sundry releases are now under consideration. The next repatriation will probably be in October if a ship be available."

Mr. Doherty gave the House some information with regard to the loan which Canada has made to Rumania. He stated that the total amount of the loan was \$25,000,000 and that it was confirmed by order-in-council in April last. The amount advanced up to the present was \$6,353,600, and Rumanian bonds to the full value had been deposited at the Bank of Montreal, London.

Hon. N. W. Rowell speaking on the second reading of the act to amend the Soldiers Civil Re-establishment Bill, explained that the work of the department such as vocational training, and the definition of classes into which the soldiers were divided, and also the matter of pay and allowances to the men were defined by order-in-council. The work of the department had many ramifications, and new reciprocal arrangements had been made with the Governments of the United States and Great Britain whereby Canada took care of soldiers resident in the Dominion who had served in the United States or Imperial armies, and these countries took care of men resident in Great Britain or the United States who served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Similar arrangements were being made with France, Australia and New Zealand. However, in order to carry on the work legislation must be passed.

Re-establishment Work.

Mr. Rowell reviewed the work which was being carried on by the department. Its work started, he said, when a man had been discharged from the army. Soldiers suffering from disease or disability must be cared for, and hospitals were maintained for this purpose. Men who were not physically fit were trained, if possible, to earn a living. Finally men who were physically fit were aided in getting work, partly through co-operation with the Dominion Labor Bureaus throughout the country.

Mr. Rowell said it was the desire of the Government that every facility should be provided for the soldiers to have the medical attention they required. On August 31st of the present year there were 11,134 soldiers under re-training and 5,955 had completed their training. Of the total trained 67.94 per cent. were employed in the occupation for which they had been trained and 22.26 per cent. were employed in some other occupation. The total of those who had taken their place as civilian wage earners after having received retraining was 99.26 per cent.

Vocational Training Work.

The pay and allowances to men taking vocational training during the month of July last amounted to \$940,725, said Mr. Rowell. The work of assisting the men to get employment was handled through the 95 free Government employment offices now in operation throughout Canada. Up to the end of August 31st, 316,539 men had been discharged from the C.E.F., of this total 28 per cent. or 88,000 had applied for work through the department, 61,278 had been placed in positions which they continued to occupy. As 50,000 men had been placed through the department before the armistice, the total number of placements was 111,278.

In the Civil Service.

The number of men placed in the Civil Service during the six months ending August 31, was also given by Mr. Rowell. He stated that a total of 7,823 soldiers had gone up for examination for temporary positions, and 1,927 for permanent jobs. Of the first class, 6,277 had passed and 758 for the second. The total number of appointments made through the Civil Service Commission was 5,320, and an additional 3,000 men were given employment by the department of Soldiers Civil Re-establishment itself. During the six month period only 867 civilians were appointed to Government positions.

Mr. Rowell stated that the department supplied surgical appliances, artificial legs, arms, and eyes, etc., when they were required. He closed by stating that Canada occupied the premier place among the countries of the world in caring for her returned soldiers. The bill before the House was necessary in order that the work should be carried on after the orders in council passed under the War Measures Act became inoperative.

Mr. McKenzie's Opposition.

Mr. D. D. McKenzie, after stating that Mr. Rowell had furnished the House with a great deal of information, remarked that one would gather from the speaker's statement that all was well in this department. He said that it was unfortunate that the minister in charge of the department was not present in the Commons to answer questions and present information. Mr. Rowell's statement was a very rosy one, but it hardly coincided with complaints made by

soldiers from one end of the country to the other. As a matter of fact, a Government supporter, Mr. F. B. McCurdy, had resigned from the position of Parliamentary Secretary of this department because he thought it was doing little valuable work.

Mr. McKenzie added that there was a vast lot of loose machinery in connection with the war, involving enormous expenditures for which the soldier got very little. He found nothing in the bill to require a committee to consider it.

Possible Consolidation.

Mr. Stevens, of Vancouver, said that steps had already been taken to bring the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment and the Militia Department together as one institution.

Mr. Stevens asked the Minister if the committee would have power to deal with the question of gratuities for Canadians who served with the Imperial forces.

Mr. Rowell replied that this was not contemplated in the bill, but that the committee would have power to fix its procedure and decide the question.

Peak-Load in February.

Col. Hugh Clark, parliamentary secretary for the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, said that criticism levelled against the department by veterans was mostly along the line that the department has not done enough for returned men. He admitted that the expenses of the department have been high, but this is because Canada has been doing more, more particularly in the way of vocational training, for soldiers than any other country in the world. He predicted that the "peak-load" of expense would be reached in February next, after which there should be a sharp decline.

J. H. Sinclair complained that the matters dealt with in the bill were of little importance while really important questions were omitted and will in consequence not be considered by the committee. He urged strongly that returned men desiring to establish themselves in the fishery or other lines of business in a small way should be given assistance.

Think Government Wasteful.

Mr. Duncan Ross expressed the view that one cause of unrest among returned soldiers was that they believe the administration of the department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment and also the Militia Department was most extravagant. The Government, they believed, while denying them additional gratuities was wasting enough money to pay them the gratuity.

Mr. Rowell, answering Mr. Sinclair, explained that the financial condition of the country would not allow the Government to loan soldiers money to start them in business on the same basis as those settling on the land. In the case of land settlement the Government had as security for payment the land and buildings of the soldier.

Gets Special Committee.

The bill was given second reading, and Mr. Rowell then moved that it be referred to a special committee of the House.

This motion, Hon. Jacques Bureau opposed on the ground that the bill should be considered in committee of the whole House. The latter procedure would give all the members a chance to consider it, and express their views on it.

Mr. Rowell replied that it was the purpose to permit war veterans and soldiers to appear before the special committee and express their views on the bill. This could not be done if it was brought before a committee of the whole House.

Thanksgiving Day.

At the evening session the House took up second reading of Mr. Pedlow's bill to make the second Monday in November, Armistice Day, a permanent day for thanksgiving. In his speech, Mr. Pedlow said that his bill had received wide endorsement. In commemorating Armistice Day in this day Canada would be immortalizing the heroism of her troops and at the same time thanking the Almighty for victory.

Hon. C. J. Doherty thought November was too late for Thanksgiving Day. He preferred the present custom of having Thanksgiving Day at an earlier date and then if it was desired to commemorate Armistice Day that might be done on a separate occasion.

W. F. Cockshutt, Brantford, said he had had a resolution on the Order Paper which would have set November 11th every year as Thanksgiving Day. This would be better than naming the second Monday because that might not fall on Armistice Day at all. He suggested that it be settled by date to fall on November 11. J. A. Leduc, Westmount, and L. A. Lapointe, St. James, favored fixing the day of Thanksgiving on a Monday as also did A. Verville, St. Denis. The latter thought a holiday in the middle of the week would spoil the entire week's work for the laboring man.

The bill was read a second time. It will be considered in committee later.

The House of Commons Act.

The House then took up Mr. Jacob's bill to amend the House of Commons Act. This bill has three features:

(a) Automatic by-elections within sixty days of a seat becoming vacant; (b) Members elected for two or more electoral districts must choose their constituency within thirty days; (c) Polling days for the House of Commons to be a public holiday.

In moving second reading, Mr. Jacobs urged that the present practice of allowing a constituency to remain vacant was undemocratic. Vacant seats had in the past been the political footballs of the party in power. Furthermore, by a member neglecting to make his choice of constituency when returned in two divisions, a riding was left disfranchised.

Mr. Richardson, while agreeing with the provisions in regard to automatic by-elections, was opposed to making election days a public holiday. That would, he said, be a serious interference with business.

Mr. Verville thought that general election day should be a public holiday but did not think that the date fixed for a by-election should also be a public holiday.

R. C. Henderson thought the setting aside of election day as a public holiday would be a hardship on the rural population.

D. D. McKenzie thought the above was towards a desirable reform. By-elections should be held as soon as possible after a vacancy occurred. This was being done in England, even during the war. The practice of declaring election day a public holiday would make for purity in elections. The farmers who did not want to stop work would not be compelled to do so. There was no as he wished to speak at election

Dandruff Soon

Ruins the Hair

Girls — If you want plenty of thick, beautiful, glossy, silky hair, to by all means get rid of dandruff, or it will starve your hair and ruin it if you don't.

It doesn't do much good to try to brush or wash it out. The only sure way to get rid of dandruff is to dissolve it, then you destroy it entirely. To do this, get about four ounces of ordinary liquid arvon; apply it at night when retiring; use enough to moisten the scalp and rub it in gently with the finger tips.

By morning, most if not all, of your dandruff will be gone, and three or four more applications will completely dissolve and entirely destroy every single sign and trace of it.

You will find, too, that all itching and digging of the scalp will stop, and your hair will look and feel a hundred times better. You can get liquid arvon at any drug store. It is inexpensive and four ounces is all you will need, no matter how much dandruff you have. This simple remedy never fails.

HE DIDN'T BELIEVE

In love. Ambition held him by the throat.

He wanted wealth, power, but the error of his course was shown him and

"DESTINY"

Led him into wiser fields. Last time today and Saturday.

FAMILY

Oh - Boy!

A bevy of Mack Sennett bathing beauties will demonstrate the latest wrinkles in bathing costumes on the Russell Theatre stage all next week. A riot of beautiful girls, gorgeous scenic effects and melody, with the famous Mack Sennett

Beauties in Person

—AND—

"Jack Canuck in Berlin"

ALL NEXT WEEK AT THE

Russell Theatre

law against working on a holiday.
He did not believe that a general
holiday was necessary in the case of

a byelection, which was a local affair.

A. L. Davidson, Digby and Anna-

polls, said as there were members absent who were particularly anxious to take part in the debate, and

able length on the matters before the House, he proposed to move the adjournment. He was acceded by

Dr. Thompson, Yukon.

There was a vote with 99 for
and 50, against the adjournment.