Supplementary Order Paper

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, the 31st Day of October 1968

POST OFFICE AMENDMENT (NO. 2) BILL

Proposed Amendments

Hon. Mr Scott, in Committee, to move the following amendments:

Clause 1: To omit this clause, and substitute the following clause:

1. Short Title and commencement—(1) This Act may be cited as the Post Office Amendment Act 1968, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Post Office Act 1959* (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

(2) Sections 2 and 3 of this Act shall come into force on a date to be fixed by the Governor-General by Order in Council.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, this Act shall come into force on the date of its passing.

New Clauses

To add the following new clauses:

4. Press telegrams—Section 91 of the principal Act is hereby amended—

(a) By omitting from subsection (1) the words "eighteen hours", and substituting the words "twenty-four hours":

(b) By repealing the proviso to subsection (1):

(c) By repealing subsection (4).

5. Entry of deposit—Section 115 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing subsection (1), and substituting

the following subsection:

"(1) Every deposit made to a depositor's account shall be credited to his account. The officer receiving the deposit shall at the time of its receipt enter the amount of it in the depositor's book and attest the entry in the prescribed manner, except

that, if the deposit is made under an arrangement between the Post Office Savings Bank and the depositor whereby the book is not produced at the time of deposit, the entry and attestation shall be made on the next occasion when the depositor produces his book at the office where the account is kept for the purpose of making a withdrawal or of having entries recorded."

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Clause 1: The effect of this amendment is to postpone the coming into force of clauses 2 and 3 of the Bill until a date to be fixed by Order in Council.

Clause 4: Section 91 of the principal Act provides that where a press telegram from overseas is published in a newspaper no one else may, without the consent of the publisher, publish the telegram until after 18 hours from the first-mentioned publication; but the protection is not to extend beyond 24 hours (or, if Sunday intervenes, 48 hours) from the time of receipt of the telegram. Also, the telegram is only protected if it is printed with a special heading claiming copyright and with the date and hour of its receipt.

The amendments made by this clause simply substitute one period of 24 hours for the above-mentioned periods, and remove the requirement of a special heading. The amendments will bring the section into line with current newspaper practice.

Clause 5: Section 115 (1) of the principal Act provides that, where an officer of the Post Office receives a sum for deposit in the Post Office Savings Bank, he is to enter the amount in the depositor's book and attest the entry in the manner prescribed by regulations made under the principal Act. The clause re-enacts that provision, but makes an exception to it where there is an arrangement whereby a depositor may have money credited to his account (e.g., by way of a deduction directly from his salary) without his deposit book being produced at the time of deposit, and provides that in such a case the entry and attestation are to be made on the next occasion when he produces his deposit book for the purpose of making a withdrawal or of having entries recorded.