

When ratifications to the requisite number have been received, the amendment to the Covenant goes into force. Twenty-two months are given as the time limit during which members of the League may ratify, if they have not ratified within that time, the amendment falls. Any members that do not ratify after the twenty-two months are notified, and given one year more in which to assent. If they do not assent within a year, they cease to be members of the League.

There were amendments included in the protocols of Article 16, which has to do with the economic force in relation to the bringing to bear of influence to prevent war and to perpetuate peace. It is not proposed at the present time to ratify these protocols; both Great Britain and France have asked that they be left over until another meeting of the Assembly. Consequently, it is not necessary for us to take those up at the present time.

As I have said, the amendments that it is proposed to ratify are eminently practical, having to do entirely with methods of procedure.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: At first it was desired that five of the great Powers should have a majority in the Council, and the United States not joining, only four were left. Were not four more then elected in a group—for instance, Spain, Holland, Denmark, and another country—and did they not elect one man?

Right Hon. Sir GEORGE E. FOSTER: No.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: How were the first four elected?

Right Hon. Sir GEORGE E. FOSTER: The first four were appointed by the four great Powers. The first election was at the first Assembly of the League of Nations. Every delegate to the League of Nations wrote the name of a candidate upon his ballot paper, and deposited his vote in the box. The votes were counted afterwards by the tellers or scrutineers, and the results were announced by the President. The members were not elected by groups at all: they were elected by the individual votes placed, as I have stated, in the urn by the chief of each delegation.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: May I ask another question? Canada has been paying \$200,000 a year up to the present time; South Africa has been paying about a quarter of that amount. Will the right honourable gentleman tell us if there is

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any difference in the value of the vote of the one or the other? I mean to say, has Canada any more power in the Assembly than South Africa?

Right Hon. Sir GEORGE E. FOSTER: As I explained before in this Chamber, this is a particularly democratic League. The smallest country belonging to the League has one vote and the largest country belonging to the League has one vote; and the representatives of the smaller countries as well as those of the larger countries have an equal freedom and an equal right to express their opinions on the floor of the Assembly. A greater influence naturally inheres in the Power which occupies the strongest position in the world, and the position which it occupies in respect to the calibre and the adaptability of its delegation. The same is true of all bodies. Whilst you may have a hundred members, each with one vote, there may be very different degrees of influence exercised upon the assembly by the different members.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

After some time the sitting was resumed.

CONFERENCE OF THE TWO HOUSES

CANADA TEMPERANCE BILL AND CANCELLATION OF LEASES OF DOMINION LANDS BILL

The Hon. The SPEAKER presented a message from the House of Commons requesting a free conference with the Senate to consider certain amendments made by the Senate to Bill No. 132, an Act to amend the Canada Temperance Act, to which amendments the House of Commons has not agreed, and upon which the Senate insists; and to consider also any amendment which at such conference it may be considered desirable to make to the said Bill or amendments thereto.

The Hon. The SPEAKER presented another message from the House of Commons requesting a free conference with the Senate to consider the reasons for the House of Commons insisting upon its amendments to Bill No. 153 (Letter Y2 of the Senate) intitled "An Act respecting Notices of Cancellation of Leases of Dominion Lands," and to consider also any amendment which, at such conference, it may be desirable to make to the said Bill or amendments thereto.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND moved:

Resolved that a message be sent to the House of Commons to acquaint that House that the