

5 GEORGE V., A. 1915

And this Committee recommends that a further investigation should be made by the Government in regard to any irregularities which may have taken place in any other province of Canada, where such steps will be authorized and warranted by evidence or information of credible persons."

Mr. CARVELL: No, that means that some person, on our side of the House, has got to carry on the work of the Public Accounts Committee. That means that we have got to go to the Government and establish by some sort of evidence that there has been some crooked work. It means casting the burden upon us to carry on work when it is impossible. We are separating and going to our respective homes; we have our respective businesses to attend to, and we have no time to carry on the public business of this Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: You are taking the wrong meaning out of the words "evidence or information."

Mr. CARVELL: I may be a little piggish about this; I have moved an amendment which I propose to stand by. I want this voted on one way or the other; it is for the Government to accept or reject it.

The CHAIRMAN: Have I the permission of the Committee to take this substantive motion by Dr. Reid as the main motion and Mr. Carvell will move his amendment to this substantive motion:

Moved by Hon. Mr. Reid:

"Your Committee have had under consideration the purchase of horses for the Militia Department in the province of Nova Scotia, and beg to report to the House the evidence and documents in connection therewith.

The Committee are of the opinion that the evidence respecting the purchase of horses in Nova Scotia discloses circumstances of such an unsatisfactory character that further investigation and action are necessary, and they recommend that the said evidence and all documents connected with the matters aforesaid be referred to the Department of Justice with instructions to make such investigations, to institute such prosecutions and to take such proceedings as may be found necessary to protect the public interest.

And this Committee recommends that a further investigation should be made by the Government in regard to any irregularities which may have taken place in any other province of Canada where such steps will be authorized and warranted by evidence or information of credible persons."

Hon. Mr. REID: In connection with this resolution, and before Mr. Carvell moves his amendment, let me say that the motion I have moved places the Government in the position that it must appoint a Commission or Commissioners to investigate these matters, there is no doubt about that, there will be one appointed. Then of course the Commission must have some information, some one must write alleging that there have been irregularities existing in any province, and then the Commission would decide whether the investigation should be proceeded with. A letter such as I have in my pocket from British Columbia placed before the Commissioner would lead to an investigation if that Commissioner does his duty at all. According to the motion, if information comes to the Commission that will be sufficient to secure an investigation.

Mr. CARVELL: I move in amendment to the motion offered by Hon. Mr. Reid:

"Your Committee have had under consideration the purchase of horses in the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario for the Department of Militia and Defence and beg to report to the House the evidence and documents in connection therewith.

The Committee are of the opinion that the evidence respecting the purchase of horses in Nova Scotia discloses circumstances of such an unsatisfactory