

thereof; and such proof may be given by the manager or accountant of the bank and may be given orally or by affidavit sworn before any commissioner or other person authorized to take affidavits.

Then follow certain other provisions. The marginal notes relating to these other provisions are as follows: cheques, proof of "no account"; not necessary to prove official character; compulsion of production or appearance; order to inspect and copy; notice; computation of time. Those are the provisions that apply to legal proceedings affecting banks, and hereafter those provisions will apply to the Bank of Canada and the industrial development bank.

Mr. GREEN: Merely extending those provisions to the Bank of Canada and the industrial development bank?

Mr. ILSLEY: Yes. That is section 1. Then section 29A of the Canada Evidence Act is the section that permits the admission in evidence of a print, whether enlarged or not, from any photographic film of an entry in any book or record kept by any government or corporation and destroyed, lost or delivered to a customer after such film was taken, and of any bill of exchange, promissory note, cheque, receipt, instrument or document held by any government or corporation and destroyed, lost or delivered to a customer after such film was taken, and of any record, document, plan, book or paper belonging to or deposited with any government or corporation. I have not read the whole section, but that is the essence of it. It is an authorization for the admission in evidence of photographic or photostatic copies.

Mr. GREEN: The amendment seems fair enough.

Mr. ILSLEY: Yes. The reason we do not have to say anything about the Bank of Canada in this section is that the Bank of Canada is already mentioned, so that it is only necessary to add the industrial development bank.

Mr. MENARY: I should like to ask the minister if banks are responsible for bonds, notes and papers placed in safety deposit boxes for safe keeping. If the bank should be broken into or the boxes broken into and bonds stolen, is the bank responsible?

Mr. ILSLEY: Would the hon. gentleman wait until we are in committee?

Mr. MENARY: I am sorry.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Macdonald (Brantford City) in the chair.

[Mr. Ilsley.]

On section 1—"bank."

Mr. MENARY: If a customer has bonds or notes or papers in a safety deposit box and the bank is broken into and the contents of those boxes removed, who would be responsible? Is the bank responsible, or would the customer be responsible? Could the minister answer that question?

Mr. ILSLEY: I am afraid it would be improper for me to give legal advice even if I knew what advice to give.

Section agreed to.

Section 2 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported.

Mr. ILSLEY moved the third reading of the bill.

Mr. HANSELL: I am not rising to speak on the bill itself but to protest against third reading being given at this time.

Mr. ILSLEY: Next sitting, then.

Mr. HANSELL: This afternoon a bill was reported from committee and read the third time and passed, and I do not think that is a good practice to follow. Usually we have some little time between second and third readings, and I think this motion should come up at the next sitting of the house.

Mr. ILSLEY: All right.

Mr. SPEAKER: Next sitting.

CANADA EVIDENCE ACT

PROOF OF TREATIES BY PRODUCTION OF "CANADA GAZETTE"

Right Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Justice) moved the second reading of Bill No. 27, to amend the Canada Evidence Act.

Mr. GREEN: Will the minister explain this bill?

Mr. ILSLEY: The purpose of the bill is to provide for the proof of treaties to which Canada is a party by the production of a copy of the *Canada Gazette* or a volume of the acts of the parliament of Canada purporting to contain a copy of the treaty or by production of a copy purporting to be printed by the king's printer for Canada. The only section in the Canada Evidence Act under which a Canadian treaty can be proven is section 24, which requires production of a copy certified under the hand of the proper officer or person in whose custody it is. Section 20 provides for proof of imperial treaties by production of