

Council of the twelfth day of April, 1919, in amendment thereof."

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I beg to move, seconded by Hon. Mr. Robertson:

Resolved, that a message be sent to the House of Commons by one of the clerks at the Table to inform that House that the Managers of the Free Conference on the part of the Senate will meet in the Senate Committee Room No. 70, at 10.30 o'clock a.m., on the fifth day of July.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 a.m.

THE SENATE.

Saturday, July 5, 1919.

First Sitting.

The Senate met at 11 a.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

BIOLOGICAL BOARD BILL.

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION NEGATIVED.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED moved that the Senate go into committee to consider Bill 106, an Act to amend the Biological Board Act.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Before the motion is put, I should like to understand our position with regard to the second Order of the Day, namely:

Consideration of the report of the Special Committee to which was referred Bill 106, an Act to amend the Biological Board Act.

Ought we not either to adopt or reject the report before going into committee on the Bill? The committee met and discussed the question and brought in a report, which will be found on page 622 of the Minutes. For the information of the House I will read it:

The Special Committee of the Senate to whom was referred the Bill (106), from the House of Commons, intitled: "An Act to amend the Biological Board Act," beg leave to make their Second Report as follows:

Your Committee recommend that they be allowed further time to reconsider their report of the 23rd June last, referred back to your Committee for further consideration, in order that additional witnesses may be called.

If my honourable friend's motion were to carry and this Bill were to be reconsidered in Committee of the Whole at the present time, it would mean that any information which the committee considered necessary

The Hon. the SPEAKER.

will not be obtainable, and I think it is very necessary that we should have further information on this matter.

As honourable gentlemen know, there have been two meetings of this committee, who have examined witnesses on certain phases of the question. I should like to point out to the leader of the Government a matter that arose incidentally in the course of our inquiry. A commission was appointed by the Government for the purpose of inquiring into the question of the salmon licenses on the Pacific coast. The commission sat for some time in British Columbia, and eventually made a report. After the commission had concluded its work a condition of affairs arose in British Columbia which caused a great deal of excitement and discussion on the question of licenses. An application was made to the department for a license at a place known as Cowichan bay. This was very seriously objected to by various municipalities and by the people out there generally. The objection was that this particular portion of the fisheries of the coast had never been placed under license because of the view the people of the coast took, largely, I think, on account of the salmon and sporting rights on the rivers higher up and on the islands above this bay. The result was that the license was afterwards cancelled. I understand that, in connection with the work of examining into this license and finding out the exact situation, the Department of Marine and Fisheries requested the Biological Board to lend them one of their officers. I believe that was done; but whether what has been stated to be the trouble—the action of the board and the Fisheries Department—had anything to do with this Bill, I am not at the present moment able to say; but I think the committee would be justified in inquiring further into the matter. I bring this matter to the attention of the leader of the Government for that reason, and in justification of the report we have made to the House.

It has been stated before, but I think it should be stated again, that it is exceedingly important that this board should be continued in its present status. The question has been raised several times as to whether the board is sufficiently under the control of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. I want to point out that this board was constituted, with the power of dealing not only with moneys appropriated by Parliament for the work under clause 9 of the Act of 1912, but also moneys which the board may receive through bequests, donations, or the sale of specimens of natural history. Then