

After Recess.

The committee resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. McKENZIE: Can the minister give any forecast as to when present conditions as between Canada and the various nations which were at war with us will come to an end, so that we may know when our Naturalization Act will come into effect, and the ten year period mentioned in the Franchise Act begin to run? Would the minister also tell us just what stage the Hungarian Treaty has reached?

Mr. ROWELL: I shall be glad to give my hon. friend the information as nearly as I can with reference to the Hungarian Treaty. It was submitted some time ago to the Hungarian plenipotentiaries, and Hungary made a reply asking for certain modifications. To that the Allied Powers made answer and fixed a time for Hungary to sign the Treaty. I am not aware that Hungary has signed so far; my impression is that she has not. At the present time, I think, the Treaty simply awaits signature by Hungary.

Mr. JACOBS: I do not know whether I am in order if I ask the minister in connection with this matter now before the House if the Canadian Government had any intimation from the British Government or Viscount Grey with regard to the letter which appeared in the London Times some time ago respecting the reservations being discussed by the United States Senate. I think that question is germane to the matter now before the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sorry that I cannot agree with the hon. member. He must remember that we are in Committee of the Whole, and that according to rule the debate must be strictly relevant to the clause under consideration. I must rule the question out of order.

Mr. JACOBS: Is not that rule more honoured in the breach than in the observance?

The CHAIRMAN: I now agree with the hon. member but I hope the committee will not consider that it is the fault of the chairman.

Mr. JACOBS: Do I understand that from now on the rule is going to be strictly and rigidly observed?

The CHAIRMAN: I hope the committee will observe it.

Section agreed to.

[Mr. Rowell.]

On the preamble:

Mr. McKENZIE: I asked the minister before recess if it would not be possible for him to let us see the statute or regulation under which that \$60,000 was paid out in connection with the League of Nations.

The CHAIRMAN: This is another question which is not in order, but with the unanimous consent of the committee, it may be put.

Mr. ROWELL: My answer would simply be that it is in the statutes of last year. I have not got the statutes here.

Mr. DEVLIN: The preamble is very, very important. I find by the preamble that the Treaty has already been ratified on the part of Canada. What further necessity, therefore, is there to ratify the Treaty if it has already been ratified, as the preamble leads us to believe?

Mr. ROWELL: My hon. friend misunderstands the object of the legislation. The legislation is not to ratify the Treaty, but it is to give the Government power to carry it into effect. Secondly, my hon. friend misunderstands the preamble. It does not say that the Treaty has been ratified, but that it has been submitted to both Houses of Parliament.

Mr. DEVLIN: Perhaps I had better read it:

Whereas, at Neuilly-sur-Seine, on the twenty-seventh day of November, nineteen hundred and nineteen, a Treaty of Peace between the Allied and Associated Powers and Bulgaria, a copy of which has been laid before each House of Parliament, was signed on behalf of His Majesty, acting for Canada, by the plenipotentiary therein named.

The plenipotentiary named in the Protocol is "The Honourable Sir George Halsey Perley, K.C.M.G., High Commissioner for Canada in the United Kingdom." So I think I was right in saying that the Treaty had been signed on behalf of Canada.

Mr. ROWELL: My hon. friend before did not say "signed"; he said "ratified." The Treaty has been signed on behalf of Canada, but it must be ratified as a subsequent and substantive act, which gives it validity and brings it into force.

Mr. DEVLIN: Then do I understand that when a plenipotentiary of a country signs a Treaty the Treaty does not have effect until the Parliament of that country, if it has a parliament, ratifies the Treaty?

Mr. ROWELL: The signing does not give it legal effect unless it so appears from the