

APPENDIX No. 3

find; certainly there is evidence of purchases made in Ontario. There is the same evidence on record with regard to Ontario and other provinces as in regard to New Brunswick, and I cannot understand why the words "New Brunswick" are put in this resolution. I therefore beg to move an amendment, seconded by Mr. Tobin, that the words "and Quebec," or "Quebec and Ontario" be inserted in the third line after the word "Brunswick." (2) That we insert after the word "investigation" in the third line from the bottom the following words, namely, "into the purchase of horses in every province of Canada," and strike out the word "such" in the said third line before the word "investigation."

Hon. Mr. REID: Amended along these lines the resolution would read:—

"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 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 investigation into the purchase of horses in every province of Canada, and to institute such prosecutions and to take such proceedings as may be found necessary to protect the public interest."

The CHAIRMAN: I would not like to have it said that I acted as Chairman of the Committee and deliberately sent forward a report that we had under consideration and had investigated the purchase of horses in Ontario, New Brunswick or Quebec. We have had incidental and isolated transactions, but Nova Scotia is the only province whose transactions we have really investigated.

Mr. CARVELL: Nova Scotia and Quebec.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not think we have dealt with Quebec except incidentally.

Mr. CARVELL: I want the resolution to ask the Government to make the investigations.

Hon. Mr. REID: The Government intend investigating any irregularities in the purchase of horses in every province; there is no doubt about that. The only reason that I objected to those words going in the report was that I did not think it was regular for this Committee to make recommendations regarding some provinces about which there have been no investigation.

Mr. CARVELL: Because we have not had the time to make it.

Mr. GAUVREAU: If we have an election what are we going to do?

Hon. Mr. REID: So far as that is concerned, you need not be the least bit alarmed; we will take action at once. I am not raising any objection for any purpose. Here is the motion which the Chairman proposes (reads):—

"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 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 investigation, to institute such prosecutions, and to take such proceedings as may be found necessary to protect the public interests.