

Canadian Flag

think an hon. member put on the record earlier in this debate the business connections of the present directors. They were very, very extensive. Mr. Vincent suggested that some of these directors might not be there all the time; but I think we all know that a group of perhaps eight or nine people sitting down can do quite as much business, and as efficiently, as a group of 17 or 18. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, no particular reason was advanced for the necessity for this bill in the evidence presented to the committee. The hon. member who introduced the bill did not take any great pains to tell us why it was necessary, either. He said, "Well, the Bell Telephone Company has grown in size since 1927, when the number of 15 was first established".

Mr. Brown: Mr. Chairman, I might remind the hon. gentleman that it was 1880.

Mr. Brewin: I am afraid the hon. member is wrong. I am relying on the evidence given by the president of this company, and at page 421 of the evidence given before the standing committee Mr. Vincent said the date was 1927. The hon. member for Quebec East asked:

You were allowed 15.

Mr. Vincent: We have had 15, from 1927 on we have had 15. Before 1927 there were not always 15.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I think the hon. member would have to acknowledge that Mr. Vincent, the president of the company, probably knew what he was talking about when he gave this evidence to the committee.

Mr. Brown: What I meant was that the number of 15 directors was made allowable in 1880 on the incorporation of this company.

Mr. Brewin: It was made allowable, but they did not seem to find it necessary to have 15 until 1927. In any event, Mr. Chairman, it does not really affect the basis of my argument, because they got along up to 1927 without this number of directors, although as we have been told their business was increasing all the time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I am informed that a messenger is on his way from the other place.

Progress reported.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

A message was delivered by Major C. R. Lamoureux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable house in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the house went up to the Senate chamber.

And being returned:

Mr. Speaker informed the house that the Deputy Governor General had been pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bill:

An act to provide for the revision of certain fiscal arrangements with the provinces and to provide adjustments of fiscal arrangements and taxation provisions consequential upon the provision of youth allowances to parents resident in certain provinces.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED UNDER ADJOURNMENT MOTION

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 39A, it is my duty to inform the house that the question to be raised at 10.30 o'clock this day is as follows:

The hon. member for York-Humber (Mr. Cowan): Airports; Toronto; meeting respecting monopoly of taxi service.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

CANADIAN FLAG

OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DESIGN

The house resumed consideration of the motion by Mr. Pearson:

That the government be authorized to take such steps as may be necessary to establish officially as the flag of Canada a flag embodying the emblem proclaimed by His Majesty King George V on November 21, 1921—three maple leaves conjoined on one stem—in the colours red and white then designated for Canada, the red leaves occupying a field of white between vertical sections of blue on the edges of the flag.

And the proposed amendment thereto of Mr. Diefenbaker.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Speaker, at five o'clock I was discussing the differences of opinion between the various groups who are proponents of one form of national symbol or another, and I was pointing out that there are two large groups in Canada who are deeply involved in this matter.