

is the use in their appearing before a committee of the Senate, unless it is to log-roll and lobby senators into passing Bills to help out leading financiers in the country? Every one knows that the House of Commons is amenable to public opinion; it is a representative body, and for that reason I think a Bill of this kind sent over by the Senate at this late hour of the session should be withdrawn.

On section 69a—registration of mortgages and charges:

Mr. MEIGHEN: I move to amend section 69a by striking out the words "September" and "seventeen" in the second line and substituting therefor the words "January" and "eighteen."

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: This is a drastic section. The trust deed must be lodged with the Secretary of State. The section says:

Every mortgage or charge... shall, so far as any security on the company's property or undertaking is thereby conferred, be void against the liquidator and any creditor of the company, unless the prescribed particulars of the mortgage or charge, together with the instrument (if any) by which the mortgage or charge is created or evidenced, are delivered to or received by the Secretary of State of Canada, for registration in manner required by this Act, within twenty-one days after the date of its creation, but without prejudice to any contract or obligation for repayment of the money thereby secured; and when a mortgage or charge becomes void under this section the money secured thereby shall immediately become payable.

That is the decision of the House of Lords on that point. Twenty-one days, however, from the date of creation of the mortgage to file the same seems a very short time in this country where enormous distances are to be covered. Does not the Secretary of State think twenty-one days a very short time? I had a case in which it was necessary to register a trust deed in four provinces, and in order to comply with all the laws of the different provinces, it was necessary for me to get a special order of the court, before I got through, because of the difficulty of getting in and out of the land titles and registry offices.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Twenty-one days is the English time, but my hon. friend is quite right. We ought to allow about a week extra on account of our distances.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: I have in mind thirty days or more. I did not like to suggest more than thirty days because the min-

ister might regard it as too long. If you take a trust deed that affects a company like the Canada Cement Company which carries on operations in Manitoba, Alberta, Quebec, and Ontario—and I think it had some property at one time in British Columbia—it takes a great deal of time to register such a trust deed.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I move that the words "twenty-one" be struck out of line 6 of section 69 A on page 16, and the word "thirty" be substituted therefor.

Mr. CARVELL: I have not read this clause carefully, but unless there is some provision by which duplicates could be used, even thirty days is not enough. Take a trust mortgage involving, as very often happens, land in four or five different counties or even provinces. Under our system of registration in the Maritime Provinces, where we have no Torrens system such as exists in the West, every document must be registered and copied out at full length in the registry office.

A trust mortgage of twenty or thirty pages of typewritten matter, as would ordinarily be the case, could not be registered in three out of four of the registry offices in the Maritime Provinces without causing delay too long for this period of thirty days. But if duplicates or triplicates could be used, the difficulty would be overcome.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: In all the trust deeds now created the provision is made, usually in the last paragraph, that duplicates may be used as originals. I am a little doubtful whether or not the language should not be made a little clearer by inserting in line three, after the word "with," the words "an original of." The very point my hon. friend from Carleton has just mentioned, occurred to me just as he got on his feet.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I beg to move:

That in line 3 of page 16, after the word "with" there be inserted the words "an original of."

Mr. CARVELL: I think that is a good suggestion.

Mr. R. B. BENNETT: There is great value attaching to this, because it enables those desiring to know what obligations are outstanding, to apply to the Secretary of State and get the information for the whole of Canada.

Amendment agreed to.