

About the conference with the provinces, I shall have to make some statement later about that. I am not, at the moment, prepared to say that a conference will be called or when it will be called. I would assume that probably there would be a conference with the provinces.

Mr. NICHOLSON: I understood the minister to say earlier that he had reason to believe that the provinces would not be willing to give over their jurisdiction under the British North America Act.

Mr. ILSLEY: We have no reason to think they would; and I assume, from the general tone of a great many speeches that are made by members of provincial governments, that they would not.

Mr. GREEN: The minister is clear that General Gibson is not advocating that the dominion should take over all responsibility?

Mr. ILSLEY: Oh, no.

Mr. GREEN: He merely says that there should be a conference to define the respective fields and to work out a method of cooperation, which I think is quite proper and quite within the terms of the British North America Act.

Mr. ILSLEY: What was the third question, again?

Mr. GREEN: It had reference to prisoners' aid societies.

Mr. ILSLEY: Yes, grants to prisoners' aid societies. I cannot make any statement about that now. That is a matter for the treasury board, the Minister of Finance and the government generally. The matter is not yet at such a stage that a programme of financial aid to these prisoners' aid societies could be instituted. I have discussed that recommendation, but that is the fact; it is not yet at such a stage that a programme of financial aid could be instituted.

Mr. KNIGHT: I wish to ask a question, in view of what the hon. member for Portneuf said. Is his information correct that there is only one penitentiary in Canada which enjoys the services of a trained psychiatrist?

Mr. ILSLEY: Yes.

Resolution reported, read the second time and concurred in. Mr. Ilesley thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 177, to amend the Penitentiary Act, 1939.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first and second times.

CANADA EVIDENCE ACT

AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK AND BANK OF CANADA

Right Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Justice) moved the second reading of Bill No. 175, to amend the Canada Evidence Act.

Mr. GREEN: Will the minister explain this bill?

Mr. ILSLEY: It is a very simple one. It just extends to the Bank of Canada and the industrial development bank certain provisions which now apply to other banks. Section 29 of the Canada Evidence Act provides for the proof of entries in books and records kept in a bank. Subsection 5 is being amended so as to include the industrial development bank established by chapter 44 of the statutes of 1944-45, and also the Bank of Canada.

There are just two sections in the bill. I have dealt with the first one. The second deals with the definition of "corporation". Section 29A of the Canada Evidence Act is being amended to correspond to the definition of "bank" in subsection 5 of section 29. I shall have to get the Canada Evidence Act.

The first section of the bill before the house reads as follows:

Paragraph (a) of subsection five of section twenty-nine of the Canada Evidence Act, chapter fifty-nine of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

"(a) 'bank' means the Bank of Canada, the Industrial Development Bank and any bank to which the Bank Act applies, or to which the Quebec Savings Banks Act applies, and includes any branch, agency or office of any such bank;"

Paragraph (a) of subsection 5 of section 29 of the Canada Evidence Act is the same, with the omission of the underlined words; that is, with the omission of the words "the Bank of Canada" and "the industrial development bank". The significance of the change is that section 29 will now apply to the industrial development bank and the Bank of Canada; and when it does, the following provisions will apply to those banks:

Subject to the provisions of this section a copy of any entry in any book or record kept in any bank shall in all legal proceedings be received as *prima facie* evidence of such entry and of the matters, transactions and accounts therein recorded.

2. A copy of an entry in such book or record shall not be received in evidence under this section unless it be first proved that the book or record was, at the time of the making of the entry, one of the ordinary books or records of the bank and that the entry was made in the usual and ordinary course of business, and that the book or record is in the custody or control of the bank and that such copy is a true copy