

mistake to multiply committees in any enterprise that could be avoided, and this finance committee, as I say, consists of individuals who are available almost every day, at any time. I myself and others, have nothing to do but to attend the work of the railways, and in the case of the Deputy Minister, the work of the department is practically speaking, the work of the railway.

Mr. HEAPS: Supposing there was a case of an emergency contract and one of the members of the finance committee was away. What then?

Mr. SMART: There is a provision in there to take care of that, Mr. Hanson.

Hon. Mr. CHAPLIN: That is in there.

The CHAIRMAN: Sub-clause 2 provides, that the resolutions of the committee to be effective, must be unanimous. Now, that takes care of the point raised by Mr. Chaplin. Subsection 6—

Hon. Mr. CHAPLIN: There is another section that covers the question asked.

The CHAIRMAN: Subsection 6 says:—

The Minutes of each meeting of the Finance Committee shall be read at and to its next following meeting, and each resolution of the Finance Committee shall, together with the full Minutes (including matters upon which the members of the Finance Committee do not agree) of the meeting at which passed be submitted to the directors or to the Executive Committee thereof, at the next meeting of the directors of the said Executive Council, whichever first held, and each such resolution of the Finance Committee so submitted to the directors of the said executive council, with the exception of the resolution of the Finance Committee which requires immediate carrying out, and is expressed in the resolution to be urgent, shall be subject to the approval or otherwise of the directors or of the said Executive Committee (acting within the scope of its authority as such committee) to which so submitted and shall not be effective unless and until so approved.

Hon. Mr. CHAPLIN: There is a clause there dealing with the case of a man being sick or away.

The CHAIRMAN: Another can be called in.

Mr. SMART:

In the event of any member of the Committee being unable to attend any meeting thereof he shall before the date of such meeting notify the Chairman of the said Committee of his inability to attend and at such time may nominate, advising the Chairman of his so doing, a member of the Executive Committee to act in his place on the Finance Committee at such meeting, and failing such nomination the other two members of the Committee may make such nomination for such member, and in the absence of the Chairman of the Committee at any meeting thereof the members of the Committee may nominate a chairman to act at such meeting.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: No such case has arisen.

The CHAIRMAN: But provision is made.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Provision has been arranged, but I do not think there has been any case in which the appointed member of the Finance Committee has not been present at all meetings that I can recall. Can you recall any?

Mr. SMART: Yes. Last summer somebody was away. Mr. Anderson was nominated.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Any way, the cases are very infrequent.