

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** I know, but the point was clear. I know what I was voting for. I was voting to refer this bill to our own lawyer to draft a measure which would carry out the will of the minister as he expressed it. The honourable member from Toronto made much the same speech as he did here, except that it was a little shorter. He said in effect that, taking it all in all, he thought it was better to pass the legislation as it was than to disturb the situation.

**Hon. Mr. Euler:** Even if it is obscure.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** To me it is not at all obscure, I think it gives the Maritime shippers the right to ship all over the country.

**Hon. Mr. Euler:** But all the lawyers do not think as you do.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** That is the opinion of all the lawyers excepting the representative of the Maritimes.

**Hon. Mr. Euler:** It is not the opinion of the minister himself.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** No, the minister did not say that. What the minister said was, "I will express no opinion on the legislation."

**Hon. Mr. Euler:** He said it might have to go to the courts.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** No.

**Hon. Mr. Euler:** That shows uncertainty.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** No; he said he would rely on the lawyers of the department, and he recommended that the bill be passed as it was. The minister was fair. I asked him, "What do you want to give the Maritime Provinces?" and he replied, "I want to give them all the rights up to Montreal." Then it was suggested that this section goes beyond that. He said that it was up to the lawyers to decide this, but that he thought it ought to be passed the way it is.

**Some Hon. Senators:** Question!

The amendment of Hon. Mr. Campbell was negated.

### THIRD READING

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

**Hon. Mr. Robertson:** Now.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the third time, and passed.

## ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY AUTHORITY BILL

### SECOND READING

**Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson** moved the second reading of Bill 33, an Act to establish the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority.

He said: Honourable senators, the object of this bill is to establish an Authority for the purpose of constructing a deep waterway between the port of Montreal and Lake Erie. The works necessary for the waterway may complement other works on the United States side of the border, or may provide a waterway wholly within Canada. It is intended further that the Authority should maintain and operate the completed Canadian works of this waterway.

The Authority to be set up under the bill is to consist of a president and two other members, to be appointed by the Governor in Council. They will hold office for a term not exceeding ten years, and will be paid salaries to be fixed by the Governor in Council.

The Authority will be an agent of His Majesty, and will have power to enter into contracts either in its own name or in the name of His Majesty. It will also be enabled to hold property in its own name, and to bring or defend legal actions.

The president will be the chief executive officer, and he will be charged with the direction and control of the business of the Authority. The president may, subject to the provisions of any bylaw, delegate any of his powers to the other two members. The Authority will be authorized to employ such officers and employees as it may determine, and these officers and employees will not be officers or employees of His Majesty. There is provision for a pension fund for the members, officers and employees of the Authority.

The purposes for which the Authority is established are found in section 10 of the bill. This section provides that the Authority is incorporated for the purposes of:

(a) acquiring lands for and constructing, maintaining and operating all such works as may be necessary to provide and maintain, either wholly in Canada or in conjunction with works undertaken by an appropriate Authority in the United States, a deep waterway between the port of Montreal and Lake Erie;

(b) constructing, maintaining and operating all such works in connection with such a deep waterway as the Governor in Council may deem necessary to fulfil any obligation undertaken or to be undertaken by Canada pursuant to any present or future agreement.

Section 11 of the bill provides that the Authority shall, for the aforesaid purposes, have the capacities and powers of a natural person as if it were a corporation incorporated by Letters Patent under the Great Seal.

The Authority is given power to lease lands, property and water power, to borrow money up to a maximum limit of \$300 million, and to manage and operate any canals or works similar or related to the works