

The CHAIRMAN: It has been moved, gentlemen, that Mr. Bland be requested to provide the committee with a written statement showing what action, if any, has been taken with respect to the recommendations of the previous Civil Service committee contained in clauses numbered 11 to 26 inclusive of the report of the previous committee. Is there any discussion?

Mr. MACINNIS: I do not know of any discussion that is necessary. I think the position taken by the chairman was well taken. We were asking Mr. Bland to make a statement on recommendations made by the last committee. Now, here is a matter on which the committee did not make a recommendation and we are still asking Mr. Bland to report on that.

Mr. CHEVRIER: He can say "I don't know".

Mr. POULIOT: That is all right; but, Mr. MacInnis, the recommendations were made on No. 26, and I wonder if you will take the same stand about 26 when the recommendation was made by the committee.

Mr. MACINNIS: I have no objection to it, but I think it could be very well left out.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, the reason I objected to it was because with regard to 24 no recommendation was made. Therefore, I do not want to see the committee put in the absurd position of asking the Civil Service Commission to make a report as to whether or not any action was taken with respect to something upon which we recommended there should be no action taken.

Mr. CHEVRIER: Then they cannot report.

The CHAIRMAN: Pardon me. Each one has his turn. Section 25 of that report was acted upon in the House, and a statutory enactment was made; therefore, there is nothing in respect of which the Commission can report relative thereto. Twenty-six was a recommendation which could in no way be dealt with by the Commission; it dealt with the disposition of the Commission itself; and could only be acted upon by the House of Commons and the government, and, in pursuance of the recommendation of this committee it was acted upon by the government. True, the action taken by the government may be considered by some to have been acted upon only in part but, nevertheless, it was acted upon, and, whether the government did right or wrong in respect to the action it took cannot possibly serve this committee in asking the Civil Service Commission—one of whom is affected by the very clause—to make some report to this committee with respect to an action taken by the government. That is why I objected to the proceeding and suggested that in lieu hereof clauses 11 to 23 only be included.

Mr. POULIOT: Well, Mr. Chairman, I support Mr. Chevrier's motion for this reason, that numer 24 says, "your committee does not therefore see fit to make any recommendation relative thereto." I will tell the committee why I insist upon having an answer to this. I want to know if anything has been done in that regard notwithstanding the fact that the committee has made no recommendation, and that is why I want an answer. The committee has made no recommendation; that is right; but that report is dated May 10, 1932. I want to know if, apart from the fact that the committee made no recommendation, action was taken nevertheless, and I will not repeat what has been said.

Mr. CHEVRIER: There is my motion.

The CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion?

(Motion defeated.)

I am ready to receive a motion requesting Mr. Bland to supply a written memorandum with respect to items 11 to 23 inclusive.

Mr. MACINNIS: I move that the Civil Service commission be requested to prepare a written memorandum for the committee as to what action, if any, has