

serious matter, and I am calling attention to it in the belief that the more advertising it gets, the better for us in the Province of New Brunswick. We have a very difficult situation down there. The potato growers are not allowed to export their potatoes to Great Britain. If our friends of the newspapers would study the question closely they might come to the conclusion that the potato growers of New Brunswick have a good case; and now that the newspaper writers have had their amusement, I hope they will lend a hand towards improving the situation.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I join with my honourable friend in lamenting the character of the article; but I think he did a still greater injustice to the province when he said it had been hornswoggled into Confederation.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Well, I think that is a correct statement.

THE BEAUHARNOIS PROJECT

PERSONNEL OF COMMITTEE

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN moved:

That the following senators, to wit: the Hon. Senators Béique, Chapais, Copp, Donnelly, Graham, Griesbach, McMeans, Robinson and Tanner constitute the Special Committee appointed for the purpose of taking into consideration the report of the Special Committee of the House of Commons of the last session thereof, to investigate the Beauharnois Power Project, in so far as said report relates to any honourable members of the Senate, and that the said Committee be authorized to sit during sittings and adjournments of the Senate.

He said: Honourable senators, no words would be appropriate at the moment save as they bore upon the personnel of the Committee, and possibly the last section of the motion. It goes without saying that honourable members have not been eager for appointment to this Committee and have accepted merely as a matter of duty. That is true of those on the other side, I have no doubt, and certainly it is of members on this side. One consideration that governed me in determining choices was that I felt the members appointed would be more appropriately selected from points of the country not immediately associated with those from which come the senators whose names appear in the report. On the principle of venue, very often suggested and indeed usually adopted in our courts, I have made the selections from men who are geographically distant from and in no way connected with those who may be involved.

On the last point, namely, the request that the Committee have power to meet during

adjournments, this is included in the motion merely because of the conviction that the public expect that expedition will be exercised, as far as it can be exercised in justice to all concerned, and that the delays incident to adjournments which this House will have to submit to because of the lack of business should not mean delay on the part of the Committee.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: How many members of this Committee of nine are lawyers?

The Hon. the SPEAKER: I think there are seven: Hon. Messrs. Béique, Chapais, Copp, Griesbach, McMeans, Robinson and Tanner.

The motion was agreed to.

DOMINION INSURANCE COMPANIES STATUS AND POWERS BILL

SECOND READING

Bill C1, an Act respecting the Status and Powers of Dominion Insurance Companies.—Right Hon. Mr. Meighen.

THE BEAUHARNOIS PROJECT

MOTION FOR PRODUCTION OF EVIDENCE

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Before the next Order is called, I beg to make a motion, the exact form of which is not in my hand, but the effect of which is indicated in some words that I spoke in the Senate yesterday. It is a motion authorizing the procurement in the proper way, from the House of Commons, of the evidence in the Beauharnois investigation, for the use of our Committee, and to accompany the reference. I shall have the form in the hands of the Clerk very shortly.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Is that a notice of motion?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: No; it is a motion to the effect that the proper official of this House request the House of Commons to send to us the evidence of the Beauharnois Committee, and that on arrival we commit it to the Committee we have just appointed.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I have some hesitancy in agreeing to this motion, and I will state what is passing through my mind. Yesterday we asked ourselves whether we should send that request to the Commons without delay or whether we should leave the matter for our Committee to decide. The right honourable gentleman thought the Committee could come to us at any time and ask that the proper steps be taken in that direction. Now I would ask my right honourable friend, could we not attain the same object