

when I was speaking on the Address. I repeat it to-night. The Government have shown no evidence whatever that they desire the assistance of the Conservative party inside. That being so, let me conclude by saying: we have no desire to impede or retard the Government's war effort, and outside we will do all that we possibly can to co-operate.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Question!

The Hon. the SPEAKER: The question is on the second reading of this Bill. Is it the pleasure of honourable members to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. SENATORS: Carried.

Hon. Mr. SAUVE: On division.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: Carried on division.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

The Hon. the SPEAKER: When shall this Bill be read a third time?

Right Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I move, seconded by Right Hon. Mr. Graham, that this Bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce.

The motion was agreed to.

Right Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I desire to inform my colleagues that the Committee on Banking and Commerce will meet to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock, to examine into the desirability of some amendments touching only the form of the Bill.

Let me repeat what I have affirmed so often, that honourable senators who are not members of the Banking and Commerce Committee—which is composed of forty-two members—should attend the meeting, where, except for the right to vote, they will have all the powers of committee members in presenting their views. Do not let my friends who are not members of the committee hesitate to attend. I can assure them that the committee will welcome their presence and their opinions.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: Why not refer the Bill to Committee of the Whole House and have done with it? We shall all be here.

Right Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I have considered that procedure, but it would be somewhat difficult to draft technical amendments and discuss their merits if we were not all around a table. There will be this other advantage too: probably we shall have before us the Minister who guided this Bill through the other House.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

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THE SENATE

Thursday, March 5, 1942.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

DOMINION PLEBISCITE BILL

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. J. W. de B. FARRIS, Acting Chairman of the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, presented, and moved concurrence in, the report of the committee on Bill 10, an Act respecting the taking of a Plebiscite in every electoral district in Canada and the taking of the votes at such Plebiscite of Canadian Service voters stationed within and without Canada.

He said: Honourable senators, the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, to whom this Bill was referred, have instructed me to state that they have examined the said Bill and now beg leave to report the same with certain amendments. I am prepared to give a short explanation of these amendments at any time the House wishes.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Dispense.

Hon. Mr. FARRIS: I shall do it now if that is the wish of the House.

There are several amendments, but they do not in any way change the principle of the Bill. The first amendment is to section 2, the definitions section. The two paragraphs, (a) and (h), which define "Canadian Service voter" and "ordinary voter," are now combined without any substantial change. The provision in paragraph (b) relating to the "Chief Plebiscite Officer," which now appears in the definitions, is made a substantive section. The same is true of paragraph (g), in relation to "returning officer." The words "during the plebiscite" in paragraph (c) have been eliminated, because they do not appear elsewhere in the Bill. Paragraph (d), in regard to electoral districts, has been redrawn so as to state more accurately what is intended.

The next amendments are to section 3, on page 2 of the Bill. The words "as defined in this Act" are dropped out of subsection 4, being superfluous, and subsection 5 is redrawn to express in better language what the committee thought was intended as regards publication in the Canada Gazette.

I come now to section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection 2 has been redrawn in order to correct an inaccurate citation of the National