

We are not considering the Great Northern bill today, honourable senators, as its proponents are not ready to proceed with it, but we will be considering it at a meeting on Thursday next and perhaps we can consider that we have now received the opinion of counsel for the Department of Transport to the effect that the department has no objection to that bill.

The third letter I have to read is from one of the members of our committee, the honourable Senator Aird, dated May 12. He writes as follows:

Dear Senator Hugessen:

Re—The Algoma Central and Hudson Bay
Railway Company and Bill S-4.

This is to advise you, as I have already advised the Speaker of the Senate and the Leader of the Government in the Senate, that I am a Vice-President and Director of the Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway Company and therefore I do not consider it appropriate that I should take part in any deliberations concerning this Company.

Accordingly, as a member of the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, it is my intention to absent myself from any Committee hearings and to take no part in the debate, nor to participate in any vote on Bill S-4, presently under consideration.

Honourable senators, we have here, in support of this bill: Mr. Leslie C. Waugh, President and General Manager of the railway company; Mr. Douglas A. Berlis, Q.C., General Counsel and Secretary, and Mr. John G. Edison, Q.C., Special Counsel.

The bill was explained on second reading by Senator Leonard. Have you any further comments you wish to make, Senator Leonard, or do you wish to advise us?

Senator LEONARD: Mr. Chairman and honourable senators, I think I said on second reading all, I could usefully say. I have called to the attention of counsel for the applicant the discussion that took place on second reading, and I would suggest that Mr. Edison, of counsel for the applicant, might now address the committee and be at your disposal.

The CHAIRMAN: Is it agreeable to the committee?

Hon. SENATORS: Agreed.

The CHAIRMAN: Honourable senators, this bill contains a number of sections relating to various facets of the corporate organization of the company. I suggest perhaps the best way for us to deal with it is section by section, and to ask Mr. Edison for any comments or explanations we require as the sections come along. I do not know that we need any general explanation beyond that which Senator Leonard gave on second reading.

Senator ISNOR: We had very good coverage by Senator Leonard then.

The CHAIRMAN: If that is the way the committee wishes to proceed, I will go ahead along those lines.

Hon. SENATORS: Agreed.

The CHAIRMAN: Section 1, change of name. They wish to change their name from The Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway Company to Algoma Central Railway. As honourable senators will remember, Senator Leonard told us the company does not go to Hudson Bay and has no intention of going to Hudson Bay, and in that respect it perhaps differs from the attitude of the citizens of Winnipeg some years ago who resounded with the cry, "On to the Bay!" So it wishes to change its name to Algoma Central Railway. Are there any questions that any honourable senator wishes to ask on section 1? Shall section 1 carry?