

Hon. Mr. Robertson: Honourable senators, in view of the amount of legislation on the Order Paper, may I ask that my notice stand until Tuesday next?

The Hon. the Speaker: The notice stands.

CANADA-UNITED STATES RELATIONS

PROPOSED JOINT PARLIAMENTARY- CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. W. Ross Macdonald: Honourable senators, before we proceed with the Orders of the Day I should like to call the attention of the house to a matter in which I am sure all honourable senators will be interested. It will be recalled that on July 9 last this house passed a resolution, proposed by the honourable senator from Shelburne (Hon. Mr. Robertson), as follows:

That the Senate of Canada welcomes the recent suggestion of the Prime Minister of Canada for the establishment of joint parliamentary committees between Canada and the United States of America, believes that it can be of great benefit in improving relations between the two countries, and offers our wholehearted co-operation.

Eight days later, on July 17, a motion was proposed in the United States Senate by Senator Neuberger, reading as follows:

This resolution shall become effective, and a joint committee established, upon receipt by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives of notification that a committee with similar functions and terms of reference has been established by the Canadian Parliament.

I am sure all honourable senators were pleased to learn yesterday that the Government of Canada proposed to recommend the setting up of a committee in Canada as suggested by the motion of the honourable senator from Shelburne (Hon. Mr. Robertson). I understand that the Prime Minister has referred the whole matter to the Speakers of both houses, and I am interested in the representation from the Senate. A number of honourable senators have had considerable experience on international committees and could render excellent service in connection with this committee. I think that even before the matter comes to the attention of His Honour the Speaker the Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) should discuss this matter further with the Prime Minister to make sure that the Senate has adequate representation. I have merely glanced at the *Congressional Record* and I notice it was proposed in the motion by United States Senator Neuberger that the committee be quite a large one, representative of both houses of Congress.

I repeat my suggestion that the Leader of the Government take this matter up immediately with the Prime Minister to make sure that the Senate is given adequate representation.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I agree with the remarks made by the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) and I will follow up the matter as suggested by him. I was very much interested in the motion of the honourable senator from Shelburne (Hon. Mr. Robertson) and I took part in the debate upon it. I have not yet had time to read what was said in the House of Commons. I will certainly do my best to see that the Senate is properly represented on any body that is set up for this purpose.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, if I may say something on this: I was given to understand today that four members would be appointed from the House of Representatives at Washington and four from the United States Senate. It might be proposed that, similarly, the Canadian Government appoint four members from the House of Commons and four from the Senate. I do not know if the body is to be bipartisan, but I imagine it will be.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I do not want to discuss the matter further, but in reading the *Congressional Record* report of the debate on the motion by Senator Neuberger I gathered his suggestion was that in addition to the four members referred to by His Honour the Speaker, who would be the permanent members of the committee, there should be another six members from each house, appointed from time to time.

REPRESENTATION AT UNITED NATIONS

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Honourable senators, I would also like to point out to the Leader of the Government that, so far as I am aware, there has not been more than one, if indeed there has been one, delegate appointed from the present Parliament to the Assembly of the United Nations. If my memory serves me correctly, in the past it has been the custom to have a number of alternate delegates, and at least one of these delegates has been a senator. I think that practice should be continued and that we should have a delegate from the Senate at the United Nations at this very important time. May I also remind the house, and especially the honourable Leader of the Government, that it has been customary to have official observers from both houses at the meetings of the Assembly. I do not think observers from either house are there at the present time. Therefore, my second suggestion to the honourable leader