

It should be recalled in this instance that the government, through the Treasury Board, was one of the parties to the labour dispute.

The third question was:

Third, granting that this supreme authority, the Public Service Staff Relations Board, deigns to give the Government of Canada permission to enforce the law of Canada, will the government prosecute these people to the full extent of the law, under which they are liable to fines of \$100 per day?

The answer is:

The maximum fine for each offence is \$100, not \$100 per day, for employees convicted of violating the act. There are stronger penalties for the union and union officers who violate the act. Application has already been made to the Public Service Staff Relations Board for permission to institute proceedings to prosecute those who in the opinion of the employer have violated the act. Hearings will be conducted shortly by the Public Service Staff Relations Board.

The fourth question was:

Finally, does the government contemplate repealing the section of the Public Service Staff Relations Act which gives public servants the right to strike?

The answer is:

The Public Service Staff Relations Board held in 1970 that sections 6 and 101 of the Public Service Staff Relations Act when read together may be interpreted as conferring upon employees the right to strike. There is no express provision in the act that confers on public servants the right to strike. The minister responsible for the Public Service Staff Relations Board commissioned a study of the workings of the Public Service Staff Relations Act and that study has now been turned over to the President of the Privy Council who was recently appointed minister responsible for the Public Service Staff Relations Board for his consideration.

Hon. Mr. Cameron: Honourable senators, I wish to thank the Leader of the Government for his courtesy in replying to the questions I put the other day. But I would suggest that the time has come when this chamber, or some other place, should take the necessary steps to clear up the ambiguities which exist with respect to the right to strike. Even today 32 flights out of Montreal were cancelled while some 20 flights were cancelled out of Toronto. These cancellations are caused by one small group of people. It is high time this was stopped.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: Honourable senators, I merely wish to state at this time that I had some supplementary questions to put to the Leader of the Government. However, in view of the incident that occurred yesterday in the other place, I am afraid of the qualifications that might be put on my questions, so I am going to refrain from putting them today. But that fear will soon disappear.

Hon. Mr. Martin: I can only say that I do not understand the observation.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY—DEBATE CONTINUED

The Senate resumed from Thursday, February 24, consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Hon. Mr. Buckwold, seconded by Hon. Miss Lapointe, for an address in reply thereto.

Hon. Guy Williams: Honourable senators, first I want to express my thanks and appreciation of my good fortune for the privilege of being appointed to sit in this place of high honour and dignity, full of long and lasting traditions of the Crown. My family joins with me in saying "Thank you." You have extended congratulations to me and have wished me well. This gesture has helped me to adjust to the many responsibilities of this Upper Chamber.

I must say at this time that I have enjoyed the debates since my appointment, and I believe I have learned a great deal from them. I expect to learn much more as time goes on.

I wish to dwell at some length on the Speech from the Throne and the aspect of isolation in its many forms, particularly the isolation of the first citizens of Canada, my people. I would be remiss if I did not voice the effects of this isolation along with the effects of your civilization. In order to do that I shall take you back to a period of history which existed more than two centuries ago.

The culture of the Iroquois tribes differed considerably from that of the nomadic Algonquin bands. The Iroquois were, first, largely an agricultural people. Their villages were permanent fixtures in the forests, which were cleared to plant gardens and accommodate the deer that browsed on the fresh growth. The fiercest of the Iroquois were the Mohawks, who lived along the Hudson River in New York. West of them were the almost equally fierce Oneida, and then came the Onondaga, a relatively peaceful tribe. Further west were the Cayuga, a small group, while the most westerly Iroquois and the most numerous were the Seneca, who harassed the Indians living along the Ohio River and its tributaries.

At approximately the year 1570 these five tribes formed the Hodesaunee or League of Five Nations. This group became known as the Six Nations when the remnants of the Tuscaroras were admitted in 1722. This confederacy was to last a full two centuries, finally breaking up at the time of the American revolution when most of the Mohawks, Onondaga, Cayuga and Seneca sided with the British against the Tuscaroras, and the Oneida on the side of the revolting colonies in 1776.

Although legendary as to its origin, the confederacy probably received its impetus from the probings of the French ships into the Gulf of St. Lawrence early in the sixteenth century. Although there is no record of direct contact between them and the Iroquois at that time, the Iroquois could hardly have been unaware of the white intrusion just beyond their borders. Cartier, for example, sailed up the St. Lawrence River, and probably reached the vicinity of Montreal 35 years before the league was allegedly formed.

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The League of the Iroquois deeply impressed the white settlers, and some historians believe that it was one of the