

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Honourable senators, I move, seconded by the Right Hon. Mr. Meighen:

That it be resolved that the Hon. the Speaker do sign the said address to His Most Excellent Majesty the King on behalf of the Senate.

The motion was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. DUFF: I would suggest, honourable senators, that we now rise and sing the first verse of the National Anthem.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Honourable members then rose and sang the National Anthem.

#### NAVAL AFFAIRS ORDER DISCHARGED

On the Order:

Resuming the further adjourned debate on the question proposed by the Hon. Mr. Ballantyne:

That he will call the attention of the Senate to the training of naval cadets and the closing of the Naval College and also to the sale of the training ship *Aurora*.—Hon. Mr. Black.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: Honourable members, I think this Order may as well be discharged. It will, I am sure, improve in the keeping, and its discussion will be more pertinent and informative at the next session. I say that because we are rushing to a close of the session. The Banking and Commerce Committee is to sit after we rise, and the time now at our disposal is so short that it would not be worth while for us to attempt to conclude the debate.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I had suggested that perhaps we could take up the Order this afternoon, because I felt I owed it to the honourable senator from Alma (Hon. Mr. Ballantyne) and those who followed him in the debate to express my views and perhaps, in part, those of the Government on this matter.

The atmosphere in Europe is clearing somewhat, and I hope this country will remain safe during the next few months. I shall be in a better position later to state exactly the views which I intended presenting to this House. The debate will be adjourned till Monday.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Dropped!

At 1 o'clock the Senate took recess.

The Senate resumed at 4 p.m.

#### COMBINES INVESTIGATION BILL REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. F. B. BLACK presented the report of the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce on Bill 41, an Act to amend and consolidate the Combines Investigation Act and amending Act.

Hon. Mr. COTE.

He said: Honourable senators, the committee have considered this Bill and report it with many amendments. I will not read the report. It consists of about eight pages, I think.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Is it your pleasure, honourable members, to concur in the amendments to this Bill?

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND: Honourable senators, the Bill was sent to the Banking and Commerce Committee, where it met with considerable criticism from various angles. It soon became apparent that unless we sat for a couple of weeks examining and testing every principle contained in the Bill, as well as in the Act of 1935, upon which it is based, we should be unable to reach a conclusion satisfactory to the members of the committee. This being so, I suggested that the Act of 1935 should be amended as little as possible and that we should direct our attention exclusively to two features of the Bill as it came to us from the House of Commons. The first feature had to do with the transfer of the administration of this Act from the President of the Privy Council and the Tariff Board, so called, to the Department of Labour and a commissioner to be appointed. There were also consequential amendments. The second feature was the amendment of the clause which referred to the admissibility, at any criminal trial which might follow an inquiry, of evidence, not documentary but oral, that had been brought before the commissioner. I thought that by thus limiting the purport of the Bill we could reach a conclusion which would be more satisfactory, not only to the Minister who has been in charge of the Bill, but to this Chamber as well.

But when we came to the question of transferring administration of the Act to the Department of Labour it was proposed that the commissioner's powers should be limited to the conducting of a preliminary inquiry, and not include the right to hear witnesses under oath or compel production of documents. Realizing that the committee desired to transfer from himself to a person in judicial office the power to decide, after a preliminary inquiry, whether there was sufficient evidence to justify full investigation, the Minister suggested—although he feared this would deprive him of his responsibility as Minister of Labour in such cases—that the authority to make the decision be vested in the Attorney-General of Canada or the Minister of Justice. This was not acceptable to the majority of the committee, and there was proposed an amendment which was carried and has been embodied in the report before