

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister) moved:

That a special committee be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed, lists of members to compose the select standing committees of this house, under standing order 63, said committee to be composed of Messrs. Rhodes, Dupré, Simpson (West Algoma), Stewart (West Edmonton), and Casgrain.

Motion agreed to.

INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister) presented the following message from His Excellency the Governor General:

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons a certified copy of an approved minute of council, appointing the Right Honourable Sir George H. Perley, Minister without Portfolio; the Honourable Donald M. Sutherland, Minister of Pensions and National Health; the Honourable Thomas G. Murphy, Minister of the Interior and Superintendent of Indian Affairs; and the Honourable Maurice Dupré, Solicitor General, to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons as commissioners for the purposes and under the provisions of chapter 145 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, intitled, "An Act respecting the House of Commons."

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to lay before the house the report of the joint librarians of parliament.

On motion of Mr. Bennett the house adjourned at 5.05 p.m.

Friday, January 18, 1935

The house met at three o'clock.

ELECTORAL LISTS

On the order for motions:

Hon. C. H. CAHAN (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, on the order for motions, may I be permitted to reply to the inquiry made by the right hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King) at yesterday's session. Pursuant to the provisions of section 46 of the Dominion Franchise Act of last session, the dominion franchise commissioner commenced on November 20 last to deliver to the king's printer copies of the lists of electors for the several electoral districts of Canada as they were severally prepared, with directions to the king's printer for the printing of the same.

These lists comprise approximately 6,000,000 names of electors, of which about 1,000,000

names are now set up in type, although the printing of departmental reports, in English and French, for presentation to parliament, has been given precedence over other work. The printing bureau, in addition to its other work, is now setting up in type about 75,000 names per day, so that in the ordinary course, without grave accidents to the equipment of the bureau, the composition should be completed early in April, and the printing of the lists should be completed about April 15 next.

This date will permit the printed electoral lists to be distributed to the registrars of electors in the several electoral districts, so that, as provided in section 20 of said act, the annual revision of the electoral lists may commence on May 15 next.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES

On the order for motions:

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I desire to advise the house that during the recess the Hon. H. H. Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce, resigned his office, and that on the 17th day of November last Mr. R. B. Hanson, member for York-Sunbury, having been previously sworn of the privy council, was appointed Minister of Trade and Commerce. The Hon. Murray MacLaren resigned his office as Minister of Pensions and National Health, and on the 17th November the Hon. D. M. Sutherland, the then Minister of National Defence, was appointed Minister of Pensions and National Health. On the same date the Hon. Grote Stirling, member for Yale, having been previously sworn of the privy council was appointed Minister of National Defence. The correspondence I now table.

Mr. POULIOT: I rise to a point of order. Would it not have been proper to make that statement before the ministers tabled the reports of their departments?

Mr. BENNETT: Undoubtedly it would have been, and I intended to do so, but a minister rose before I could speak. There is no point of order, however; it is purely a matter of the custom of the house.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Did not the Prime Minister himself as Secretary of State for External Affairs table the first report?

Mr. BENNETT: I did, yes.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes, I thought the Prime Minister tabled the first report.

Mr. BENNETT: Yes, but the hon. member referred to "ministers" and "reports of