

in favour of the amendment. To extend the bill as proposed by the hon. member for Hants (Mr. Martell) would simply defeat its purpose; in fact it now covers companies such as those described by the hon. member provided their primary purpose is service rather than profit.

Mr. MARTELL: Do you expect private individuals to invest money in an undertaking without getting a legitimate dividend upon it?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: They will get a legitimate dividend.

Mr. MARTELL: You say the test is public service rather than profit.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Otherwise they could not exist. If we have voted moneys sufficient to take care of that sort of activity it would be another matter, but we have not done so and are not likely to. Therefore let us not attempt to spread ourselves all over and accomplish nothing.

Mr. MARTELL: Cut it all out.

Mr. CHAPLIN: When this bill was under consideration before I pointed out the very same feature to the minister and asked him if he would consider an expansion of the clause by including the words "incorporated companies." At that time the minister said the matter would be considered and that the suggestion would likely be adopted. I certainly agree with the hon. member for Hants (Mr. Martell) that with the restrictions laid down in the act there is no reason why incorporated companies should not

5 p.m. be included. I would point out also that the provision is that the Governor in Council "may" enter into a contract; so that the minister cannot say he is not able to prevent people from grabbing, or, to use his own expression, gobbling the whole thing. There is no obligation to enter into a contract; it says the Governor in Council "may" do so.

Amendment (Mr. Martell) negatived.

Bill, as amended, reported.

Mr. SPEAKER: When shall the bill be read the third time?

Mr. MARTELL: I would ask, Mr. Speaker, that the third reading be delayed.

Mr. SPEAKER: Next sitting of the House.

FOREST RESERVES AND PARKS

Hon. CHARLES STEWART (Minister of the Interior) moved the second reading of Bill No. 82, to amend The Dominion Forest Reserves and Parks Act.

[Mr. Motherwell.]

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the House went into committee thereon, Mr. Gordon in the chair.

On section 1:

Mr. GUTHRIE: I think we should have some explanation of this bill.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Perhaps I had better give a general explanation of what is embodied in the bill, and then we can deal with the clauses in detail. The statement which I have is as follows:

In the accompanying schedule a new description of each of the thirty-nine reserves is included, although there is no change proposed in the areas comprising many of these reserves. The rewriting of the schedule was approved owing to the fact that the original description in the 1911 act was made by the metes and bounds system, which is a very cumbersome and complicated method, and also in view of the fact that in the numerous amendments to the original act the lands added or withdrawn have been described by section, township and range. The result is that it is a very difficult matter for anyone not familiar with the act and all its amendments to determine the lands which are included in forest reserves. In the accompanying schedule, each reserve has been described by section, township and range, all previous withdrawals or additions having been taken into consideration, and provision having been made for such alterations as are proposed in the present bill.

Manitoba

Eliminations.

It is proposed to withdraw from the Spruce Woods Forest Reserve three-quarters of a section, and from the Porcupine Forest Reserve No. 1 one-quarter of a section. These lands have been examined and found to be of possible agricultural value. It is also proposed to withdraw 38.00 square miles from the Riding Mountain Forest Reserve. All of this area except one section is included in a block isolated from the main reserve by the withdrawal of lands for soldiers settlement when the act was last amended. This isolated block has been jointly examined by representatives of the Soldier Settlement Board and of the Forestry Branch and it has been decided to eliminate it so that it may be used for soldier settlement.

The total area to be withdrawn from the reserves in Manitoba is 39.00 square miles.

Additions:

It is proposed to add 28.36 square miles to the Riding Mountain Forest Reserve. This area was withdrawn in 1919 for soldier settlement purposes but it has been decided by the Soldier Settlement Board that the lands contained therein are not suitable for soldier settlement, and, located as they are, adjacent to the present reserve boundary and consisting of lands along the south shore of Clear Lake and also of a tract frequented by the elk from the game preserve during the winter months, it is considered that this area would form a valuable addition to the reserve.

One new reserve is proposed, namely, the Sandilands. This proposed reserve is situated in the southeastern part of the province and comprises an area of 187.75 square miles and consists chiefly of sand ridges with intervening muskegs. A soil survey of the area has been made by the Geological Surveys and they classify the land contained therein as being entirely unsuited for agriculture. They recommend that it be reserved for forestry. Our report on the area confirms that of the Geological Surveys.