

THE SENATE

THURSDAY, February 17, 1921.

The Senate met at Three p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

STANDING COMMITTEES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SELECTION.

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: May I ask the House to permit me to move concurrence in the report of the Committee of Selection before we proceed with the Orders of the Day, so that the notices involved may be sent out to the different members? There are a couple of hundred notices, I understand, to be issued.

Hon. Mr. DAVID: Will the House allow me to say that the name of the honourable gentleman from La Salle (Hon. Senator Godbout) was put by mistake in place of mine on the Private Bills Committee.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I shall have much pleasure in bringing about the change suggested by my honourable friend from Mille Iles (Hon. Mr. David).

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Honourable gentlemen, before the motion is put I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that this proceeding is a little unusual. I do not want to raise any objection, but I think it is well to call attention to this fact. As a rule we do not deal with any business until we have disposed of the Address. Probably this procedure is more convenient for honourable members of the Senate, but I do not think it should be allowed to pass without drawing attention to the change that we are making in our procedure.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: We always reserve that right.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: No precedent.

Hon. Mr. POWER: Before the honourable gentleman from De Lorimier (Hon. Mr. Dandurand) resumes the debate on the Address, I think that we should be sure that we are proceeding in the right way. I quite concur in the view expressed by the honourable gentleman on my right (Hon. Mr. Bostock). As I understand, the honourable leader of the Government asked the leave of the House to move the adop-

tion of the report of the Committee on Selection, and the honourable gentleman from Mille Iles (Hon. Mr. David) and other honourable gentlemen thought that the report needed certain amendments. It seems to me that the correct procedure is that on the motion of the honourable leader the gentlemen who wish changes made should move those changes as amendments, and that we should not adopt the report as a whole, as I understand we are doing, and later take up the amendments piecemeal and separately. I think the business-like way is for any honourable gentleman who has an amendment to move it before the report is adopted.

Hon. Mr. DAVID: It was my intention to have an amendment moved, but I was waiting for the honourable gentleman from Ottawa (Hon. Mr. Belcourt), who is not present, as I counted upon him to make the motion.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: I will move the motion, if necessary. It is only a mistake in substituting one name for another, and the honourable leader of the Government has agreed to have the change made.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: It will be changed accordingly.

The motion was agreed to.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

The Senate resumed from yesterday consideration of the Address in reply to His Excellency the Governor General's Speech at the opening of the Session.

Hon. Mr. RAOUL DANDURAND: Honourable gentlemen, when my honourable friend the leader of the Government delivered his address yesterday he stated that after 1866 there were in Canada people who were constantly clamouring for the American market, and he deprecated that attitude on the part of Canadian people. I was proceeding to establish that reciprocity in natural products was the uniform policy of both political parties in Canada up to 1911. I had reached the year 1891 and the elections that took place in that year, which were won by Sir John A. Macdonald on that issue. He presented an alleged offer of reciprocity in natural products coming, as he said, from the United States. He presented that offer to our people for endorsement, as against the Liberal programme of unrestricted reciprocity. I think I am stating clearly what was the issue in the elections of 1891.