

THE SENATE

Wednesday, October 30, 1957

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

Routine proceedings.

PRIVATE BILLS

BRITISH COLUMBIA TELEPHONE COMPANY— COMMITTEE AMENDMENT CONCURRED IN

Hon. A. K. Hugessen, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, presented the report of the committee on Bill B.

The report was read by the Clerk Assistant as follows:

The Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, to whom was referred the Bill (B) intitled: "An Act respecting British Columbia Telephone Company", have in obedience to the order of reference of October 24, 1957, examined the said bill, and now report the same with the following amendment:

1. Page 1, lines 17 and 18: Strike out the words "by and with the consent of a majority of two-thirds in value of", and substitute therefor the following: "duly confirmed by two-thirds of the votes cast by".

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this amendment be considered?

Hon. J. W. de B. Farris: Honourable senators, the amendment is a small one of wording. There was some question as to what the words "by and with the consent of a majority of two-thirds in value" meant, and the committee substituted the words that have just been read. With leave of the Senate, I would move concurrence in the amendment.

The motion was agreed to.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill, as amended be read the third time?

Hon. Mr. Farris: With leave of the Senate, I now move third reading.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: What is the hurry?

Hon. Mr. Howard: I have not even seen the bill.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Unfortunately, as I was busy elsewhere, I could not attend the meeting of the committee where this matter was studied, and unless there is some reason for haste I should like to have a little more time on it.

Hon. Mr. Farris: Then I move that the bill be placed on the Order Paper for third reading at the next sitting.

The motion was agreed to.

BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF CANADA— COMMITTEE AMENDMENT CONCURRED IN

Hon. Mr. Hugessen presented the report of the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications on Bill C.

The report was read by the Clerk Assistant as follows:

The Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, to whom was referred the Bill (C) intitled: "An Act respecting The Bell Telephone Company of Canada", have in obedience to the order of reference of October 24, 1957, examined the said Bill, and now report the same with the following amendment:

1. Page 2, line 8: Strike out the words "for all purposes".

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall the said amendment be considered?

Hon. Paul H. Bouffard: With leave of the Senate, now. Honourable senators, the only purpose of the amendment is to make it clear that whenever the company issues stock, after obtaining approval of the Board of Transport Commissioners, it will have to go through the securities commissions in each province. The company officials are agreeable to the amendment made by the committee. I would therefore move that the report of the committee be concurred in.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Would the honourable senator tell us why the words "for all purposes" are being struck out? Will these stock transactions not be valid for all purposes?

Hon. Mr. Bouffard: One member of the committee thought that once the board has approved the issue of stock, if the words "for all purposes" were in the section it might mean that the company would not have to go through the securities commission in each province. It is felt that if these words are struck out there will be no doubt that the company will still have to comply with the regulations of the securities commission in each province where the stock will be sold. The only purpose of the amendment is to avoid misinterpretation.

The motion was agreed to.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Hon. Mr. Bouffard: If there is no objection, I move that the bill be placed on the Order Paper for third reading tomorrow.

The motion was agreed to.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY— DEBATE CONTINUED

The Senate resumed from yesterday consideration of Her Majesty the Queen's