

than we are in the Northwest Territories. I think we have to go quite a little distance to catch up with the Yukon.

Mr. RHEAUME: From your study of this, in your mind, in respect of the Northwest Territories, is there any situation similar to what threatened the Yukon in 1905 to justify having received this form of government?

Judge SISSONS: No. I think in 1905 it was just an additional rapid development there which necessitated a more official form of government.

Mr. NIELSEN: It was 1903.

Judge SISSONS: Yes. There was a very rapid development there.

Mr. TURNER: I think it is 1903.

Mr. NIELSEN: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Mr. DINSDALE: Mr. Chairman, in my opinion, Mr. Justice Sissons' observations have been very helpful this afternoon because in Canada's historic past we have gone through many episodes similar to that which the Northwest Territories is passing through now. The example of Manitoba was mentioned in this respect and I do not think that is too happy a circumstance to quote here this afternoon. Manitoba came into confederation in 1870 and it was not until 1912 that our boundary problem was finally resolved. Also, at the time Manitoba came into confederation our total population was only 11,000. The evidence that has been given here has been disputed by Mr. Turner and I wonder if it could be clarified before we relieve Mr. Sissons from his duties as a witness here what type of government he has in mind.

Mr. Justice Sissons refers to the kind of government that we had in the Northwest Territories previous to 1905 and Mr. Turner seems to think that is not a very happy example to present to the committee. Mr. Chairman, could we resolve the misunderstanding in this respect?

The CHAIRMAN: Well, the Chair would like to be enlightened at least in respect of what type of government did exist before 1905. The witness has referred to it. I believe it was just after Alberta and Saskatchewan came into confederation.

Judge SISSONS: It was just before that.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. If I recall correctly, they came in in 1905. What type of government did exist at that time? Is it the type which Mr. Turner has referred to or is it another type which the witness has referred to? The Chair is not clear on it and I trust that perhaps other members of the committee are not clear in respect of this situation.

Judge SISSONS: As I understand it, there was then a lieutenant governor, a legislative assembly and a legislative council, and he could appoint that council or bring people in from outside who would be members of both.

Mr. TURNER: He appointed three judges out of the five.

Judge SISSONS: I think that came later.

Mr. TURNER: That was in the original act.

Judge SISSONS: What year was that?

Mr. TURNER: 1875.

Judge SISSONS: But, I am referring to a later period.

Mr. DINSDALE: Mr. Justice Sissons, was this not the kind of government that Manitoba had following 1870, a lieutenant governor with an elected council, and the lieutenant governor chose the executive council?

Judge SISSONS: Yes, I think this was patterned after the Manitoba experience. This led from the Manitoba experience, and they followed that pretty well in the old Northwest Territories.