

THIRD READING

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND moved the third reading of the Bill, as amended.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the third time, and passed.

HOME BANK DEPOSITORS RELIEF
BILLPROPOSED CONFERENCE WITH HOUSE OF
COMMONS

The Hon. the SPEAKER presented the following message from the House of Commons:

Resolved, that a Message be sent to the Senate respectfully requesting a Free Conference with Their Honours to consider certain amendments made by the Senate to the Bill No. 182, an Act for the Relief of the Depositors of the Home Bank of Canada, to which amendments this House has not agreed and upon which the Senate insist, and any amendment which at such Conference it may be considered desirable to make to said Bill or amendments thereto.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Honourable gentlemen, according to practice and logic, the members of the Chamber whose policy has been maintained, in contradistinction to that of the other House, must move to appoint the Managers to the Conference from among those who have insisted upon the amendments. That being so, I leave it to my honourable friend to move.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: As my honourable friend is the Leader of the Government in this House, and is in charge of the Bill, it seems to me that he should move for the Conference. I shall then move to nominate certain gentlemen on this side to represent the views entertained on this side of the House.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I have not the complete formula, but I move that we agree to a Conference, and I would suggest that we appoint from three to five managers.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I would suggest to my honourable friend that the Right Honourable Sir George Foster, the Honourable George G. Foster, of Alma, and the Honourable Mr. Black, of Westmoreland, should represent this side of the House. It seems to me that my honourable friend should nominate the Honourable Mr. Béique, who took a very active part in drafting the Bill as it went from this House.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: The Honourable Mr. Béique is not here.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: He will be here.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: And I believe that the Senate has sufficient confidence in the honourable gentlemen whom my honourable friend has named to leave the interests of the

Hon. Mr. WATSON.

Senate in their hands, with himself as the fourth representative. I believe that those four would fairly represent the opinion of the Senate.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: The only answer I have to that is that this Bill was very largely the unanimous production of the Senate. Both sides agreed upon it. It is very undesirable that any impression should be created either in the mind of the Commons or in the mind of the public that this side alone is responsible for the Bill. I think my honourable friend should appoint one or more representatives from his own side of the House; otherwise I would not feel that we were justified in going into a Conference on a Bill of this nature.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I have no objection to the addition of a fifth representative; but there is a certain misconception as to the attitude of a certain number of the members of this Chamber. We went into this matter yesterday although not very deeply, and my right honourable friend (Right Hon. Sir George E. Foster) referred to my suggestion that we were not binding the Senate to the principle contained in the Bill—that we passed the second reading and looked for more information from the Liquidator. Of course, my honourable friends will realize that I resigned myself to the action of the Committee, because I felt that the measure as presented did not meet with the approval of the majority in this Chamber. My honourable friend himself referred to that situation yesterday. There was undoubtedly an adverse opinion on the measure as presented to this Chamber, as was manifested by the discussion, and I agreed that the substitute measure should be sent to the Commons in order to try to obtain a compromise which would to a large extent satisfy the vast majority of the depositors. I made the necessary reservation when the Bill came from the Committee so that I could indicate clearly to the Senate that I had no mandate from the Government to accept the substitute measure which then came before this Chamber. Now my honourable friend should nominate the representatives.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Not entirely. If I assume the responsibility of nominating the majority of the Managers, I certainly must insist on my honourable friend nominating at least two from his side of the House, because the conclusion arrived at on the Bill was peculiarly unanimous. My honourable friend moved the third reading of the Bill.