

7 GEORGE V, A. 1917

Mr. JOHNSTON, K.C.: It is the Toronto Electric Light Company which distributes power in the city of Toronto. But we are not dealing with that company now, it is not the creature of this Parliament.

Mr. CARVELL: I understand we are dealing with the Toronto and Niagara Power Company, because they are the company incorporated by this Parliament. Anyway, I think the principle is vicious and I should hate awfully to see it obtain in this Bill. If the condition exists that the city of Toronto requires a remedy, they had better come here and let the Parliament of Canada face the situation just as they did in the case of the Toronto and Hamilton Railway.

Mr. MACDONELL: My honourable friend knows that cannot be done. A special Act that would deal with this company cannot be brought in here unless the company comes and asks for it.

Mr. CARVELL: The Parliament of Canada has power over the Toronto and Niagara Power Company.

Mr. NESBITT: As a matter of fact what the Toronto people want to-day is to shut off the supply of electricity from the Toronto Electric Light Company in order that they can buy them out on their own terms.

The CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question, Gentlemen?

Mr. NESBITT: No, we are not.

Mr. BLAIR: Reverting to the telephone section which has been amended by striking out the word "compensation", it is quite within the range of probability that I may one day be asked to construe that section as amended and to advise the Board whether under the amended section the Board has power to allow compensation under the terms of the Act, and I would like the Committee to inform me whether it is the intention in striking out the word "compensation" to take away from the Board the power to allow compensation in cases where in the discretion of the Board it should be allowed?

Mr. NESBITT: As mover of the amendment I may say it was not by any means my intention to take away from the Board the power to order compensation if in their discretion they thought it ought to be allowed.

The CHAIRMAN: Is the Committee ready for the question on the amendment we have been discussing this morning?

Mr. CARVELL: Here is a long amendment, Mr. Chairman, which the Committee should carefully consider before taking action. I do not think you should press it to a decision to-day.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall we take it up again to-morrow?

Mr. CARVELL: I think that will be the better way.

The CHAIRMAN: The following letter and memorandum from representatives of Ontario municipalities now using or desiring to use Hydro-Electric Power has been received and will be placed on the record for the information of the Committee.

To, the Members of the
Special Committee
House of Commons.

GENTLEMEN:—

This memorial or petition of representatives of Ontario Municipalities now using or desiring to use Hydro-Electric Power which together constitute a majority of the municipalities of the province of Ontario and which have an investment and capital liability of nearly forty millions of dollars, beg leave to present the attached resolutions as representative of the wishes and the best interest of the people of the province and desire to say further that the municipalities appended are prepared to send a