

TUESDAY, May 31, 1931.

The Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce met at 11 a.m., the Chairman, Mr. Moore, presiding.

*Members present:* Messrs. Cleaver, Fiset (Sir Eugène), Fontaine, Hill, Jacobs, Kirk, MacDonald (*Brantford City*), Martin, Moore, Stevens, Thorson, Vien, Woodsworth.

In attendance, Mr. G. D. Finlayson, Superintendent of Insurance; Mr. F. P. Varcoe, Counsel, Department of Justice, and representatives of several loan companies.

The Committee had under consideration the draft bill "An Act respecting interest on small loans" as reprinted in accordance with instructions given at the last sitting.

By unanimous consent, the Committee reverted to the consideration of section 13 of the reprinted bill.

Mr. Thorson moved,—

That section 13 be amended to read as follows: "The Money Lenders Act, chapter 135 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, to the extent to which its provisions are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, is repealed."

The question being put, it was negatived on the following recorded division: *Yeas*, Messrs. Stevens and Thorson (2); *Nays*, Messrs. Cleaver, Fiset (Sir Eugène), Hill, Jacobs, Kirk, MacDonald, Martin, Vien, Ward, Woodsworth (10).

On motion of Mr. Vien,—

*Resolved*,—That Mr. Finlayson be authorized to correct any clerical error found in the draft bill.

The Chairman then read the draft of a report for the House with respect to the Committee's inquiry into the matter of small loans.

Members of the Committee expressed their appreciation for the thorough and efficient manner with which the Chairman had dealt with such an intricate subject.

Mr. Vien moved,—

That the report as read by the Chairman be adopted and that the Chairman be authorized to submit same to the House together with the draft bill adopted by the Committee and the evidence heard.

Mr. Thorson moved in amendment thereto,—

That, in the draft bill, that portion of the "cost" as defined in section 2, paragraph (a), which is interest, be fixed at a rate not exceeding 12 per cent per annum and that the right of any provincial legislature to reduce the remainder of the said cost be preserved.

The question being put on the amendment, it was negatived on the following recorded division: *Yeas*, Mr. Thorson (1); *Nays*, Messrs. Baker, Cleaver, Hill, Kirk, MacDonald, Martin, Vien, Ward, Woodsworth (9).

And the question being put on the main motion, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division: *Yeas*, Messrs. Baker, Cleaver, Hill, Kirk, MacDonald, Martin, Vien, Ward, Woodsworth (9); *Nays*, Messrs. Stevens and Thorson (2).