

going in there for anything other than the development of the forest resources of the island; and in the plan that we would file we would make it clear that we did not intend to touch or to interfere with development of anything connected with those resources, and that the surface, to the extent that it might be required to enable them to develop the forest resources, would still be available for them, but that we would be proprietors of the land. There is a special provision with respect to crown lands owned by the province. I make this suggestion to the Prime Minister with much hesitancy. Frankly, I found it a little difficult to bring my mind to the thought that this was worthy of serious consideration, but I am satisfied that it is a serious matter. All you have to do is look at the personnel, if you like, of the whole situation. One does not want to talk about relationship and ties of marriage and matters of that sort, questions of the nationalities of various people. We do not want to discuss that, but if you look into these things you will find that there is ample food for careful thought.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: My right hon. friend as well as the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre has referred to the possible seriousness of the situation. May I say that the government has been fully alive to that aspect of it from the beginning. We have been watching the situation very carefully, and, as I have indicated, have been in communication with the government of the province of Quebec in relation to it. I am glad to be able to say that the government of the province of Quebec and this government are of one view with respect to the importance of that island being kept securely for Canadian interests, and that no foreign interest should be permitted to get any control of it in a manner that could possibly prejudice the position either of the province of Quebec or of all Canada. My right hon. friend has referred to the Departments of Justice and National Defence as departments likely to be principally concerned. I may say that for some time past both departments have been at work on the obtaining of detailed information, and have been carefully considering what steps might be advisable and necessary. I do not think I should say more than that the government itself is considering what is the best step to take and the time to take it in the light of all circumstances. We are not overlooking any circumstances of importance, but in dealing with property in any province care has to be taken to consider the

[Mr. Bennett.]

interests of that province and how the province concerned is likely to view any action on the part of the dominion government. If it is found necessary to take action on this matter of the character indicated I hope whatever is done will be done with the full accord of both governments. Certainly that accord exists at the present time with respect to the steps that thus far have seemed essential to protect all interests.

At six o'clock the committee took recess.

### After Recess

The committee resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Item No. 45, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: The leader of the opposition stated he had not finished at six o'clock.

Canada's contributions to maintenance of external organizations—To the expenses of the league of nations for 1938, including secretariat, international labour organization and permanent court of international justice, \$150,565.

Mr. BENNETT: When Mr. Chairman called it six o'clock I had not concluded what I was saying. The right hon. the Prime Minister spoke after the chairman had said it was six o'clock. I wish to make only a few further observations in connection with this matter. Hitler's personal representative, or a gentleman who at any rate alleges he is such, was in this country on Saturday last, and was in Ottawa on Sunday. He stated he had been down to Quebec to see the premier there. Whether or not that is correct, I cannot say. I only know what he said and that Sunday he was here. The highly intelligent gentlemen of the press seem to have overlooked the fact. Whether it was in relation to Anticosti island or not, I have no means of knowing. But at any rate he managed to escape publicity here.

I have pointed out the method by which the crown can relieve us of any possible anxiety or worry with respect to this matter, and without incurring any very substantial financial obligations. I say that because the statute is framed for the purpose of enabling the crown to acquire a very limited interest or such interest as may be desirable for the purpose of protecting itself from any improper claims. It is needless to say that the island of Anticosti lies in the gulf of St. Lawrence, and not only commands the north and south shores of the river and the gulf, but commands the trade and commerce of the whole of that watershed which is drained by the great lakes