

or the Freight Rates Commission. There has been a great deal of discussion with regard to copyright, and it is desirable that we should inquire carefully as to all the merits of the case. It seems to me that the Copyright Act is being pushed in this country in the interests of the publishers as the protective policy is being pushed for the benefit of the manufacturers. The rights of authors and patentees should be well considered. We have talent in Canada and that talent must find its outlet in other countries as well as in this. It is not desirable therefore that any copyright that we should force upon the Imperial Government should in any way have the effect of driving our authors and men of brains out of the country. The fine arts are an important factor in the progress and development of our christian civilization and deserve the earnest consideration of the government. I merely draw the attention of the government to the fact that there are two sides to this question, and I do not know that it is a wise thing for us to keep ourselves out of the Berne convention as we have done and are seeking to do at the present moment. It would continue to place us at a great disadvantage, so far as copyright is concerned. The report of the commission on freight rates, which is merely a collection of the data given by interested parties through departmental inquiry, will afford Parliament an opportunity to inquire whether, in the collection and distribution of the large revenue earned by the Canadian Pacific Railway, there is not a discrimination against our western country in the vital question of inland transportation. I trust the report will be available before the session closes. Before concluding, I feel it incumbent on me to congratulate ourselves on the addition of another honourable member of this honourable House to the Cabinet, and I congratulate the hon. Senator from Prince Edward Island on being the one selected, the next step, I hope, will be a portfolio.

Hon. Mr. POWER moved the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

The Senate adjourned at 5.45 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Wednesday, 24th April, 1895.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE STANDING COMMITTEES.

MOTION.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL moved :

That pursuant to Rule 79, the following Senators be appointed a committee of selection to nominate the Senators to serve on the several Standing Committees, namely :—The Honourable Messieurs Allan, Angers, Bernier, Macdonald (Victoria), McClellan, Miller, Power, Scott, and the mover ; and to report with all convenient speed the names of the Senators so nominated.

Hon. Mr. POWER—Does the hon. gentleman move that as a motion or is he merely giving notice ?

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—It is a motion. It has been on the notice paper for two days.

Hon. Mr. POWER—It is not usual to introduce any business until after the passing of the address.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—If there is any objection to the course I am taking, I shall not press the motion now. I have only done so to facilitate business.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I do not press the objection.

The motion was agreed to.

THE ADDRESS.

DEBATE CONTINUED.

The Order of the Day having been read ; Resuming the further adjourned debate on the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech, on the opening of the Fifth Session of the Seventh Parliament.

Hon. Mr. POWER said : I presume that the proper course, with respect to certain changes which have taken place in the government since last session, would be to wait until the leader of the House had made his explanations, which I presume will come