

I can congratulate the minister on his recent efforts to consolidate the transport services of the army, navy and air force, for example, the medical services, and so on. Here is something exactly along the same line. Before the war, there were only four auxiliary air force squadrons in Canada, and lads who did not live in the cities where those squadrons were located had no hope of giving service to their king and country in the auxiliary air force. If they wanted to give service they had to join the militia or the naval reserve. When the war came on, they joined the air force. Now they are continuing in the permanent force, and the minister is trying to point out that their service was of very little value to the air force. I would think one of the best indications we could have that we are moving ahead to one consolidated armed service, under one minister, would be to recognize the young lad who, before 1939, wanted to serve in the non-permanent forces, whether army, navy or air force. The actual number of people involved must be very small. I should like to wager that only the air force is involved, because certainly no man who was in an air squadron before the war joined the army or navy. I know most men who were in the naval reserve joined the navy, but there were a number, a considerable number, who, as I have said, could not get into the air squadron and who joined the militia as the next best thing but who joined the air force when the war came. I suggest that it would be another step in this consolidation of the three branches of our services into one united service to acknowledge this service in any branch.

Progress reported.

At eleven o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.

Tuesday, February 11, 1947

The house met at three o'clock.

STANDING COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE AND COLONIZATION

Right Hon. IAN A. MACKENZIE (Minister of Veterans Affairs) presented the first report of the special committee appointed to prepare and report lists of members to compose the standing committees of the house, as follows:

Your committee recommends that the standing committee on agriculture and colonization consist of the following members:

Messrs. Argue, Arsenault, Barrett, Beaudoin, Belzile, Bentley, Bertrand (Prescott), Black (Cumberland), Black (Huntingdon), Bryce,

Burton, Cardiff, Charlton, Clark, Cloutier, Côté (Matapedia-Matane), Coyle, Cruickshank, Dechene, Desmond, Diefenbaker, Douglas, Drope, Dubois, Fair, Farquhar, Fontaine, Gagnon, Gardiner, Gibson (Comox-Alberni), Golding, Gour, Hackett, Halle, Harkness, Harris (Grey-Bruce), Hatfield, Jutras, Kirk, Lapalme, Laurendeau, Leger, Lesage, Matthews (Brandon), McCubbin, McGarry, McLure, Menary, Michaud, Quelch, Ross (Souris), Senn, Sinnott, Townley-Smith, Tucker, Warren, Webb, Whitman, Wright and Wylie.

He said: I understand that the members have been agreed upon by all parties in the house.

Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the report be concurred in.

Mr. COLDWELL: May I ask when we may expect the list of the other committees? The same situation may arise in regard to them as arose in the house yesterday.

Mr. MACKENZIE: We are pressing all we can and I hope the list will be ready during the week. We certainly are not losing any time in getting the views of all parties in the house, including our own.

Motion agreed to.

POWERS OF COMMITTEE

Mr. MACKENZIE moved:

That the standing committee on agriculture and colonization be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the house, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Motion agreed to.

REPORTS AND PAPERS

Hon. HUMPHREY MITCHELL (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table copy of P.C. 401, dated February 3, 1947, rescinding the appointment of Mr. F. B. Kilbourn, of Montreal, as controller of the Steel Company of Canada, Limited, Hamilton, the Algoma Steel Corporation, Limited, Sault Ste. Marie, and the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation, Limited, Sydney, Nova Scotia. The custody and control of the properties of these companies were reverted in the companies as of that date.

PRIVILEGE

MR. IRVINE—REFERENCE TO ARTICLE IN "GLOBE AND MAIL" REPORTING COMMONS PROCEEDINGS

Mr. WILLIAM IRVINE (Cariboo): Mr. Speaker, I desire to raise a question of privilege concerning the hon. members of this house. It has to do with a matter of the inaccurate reporting of yesterday's proceed-