

but it is more appropriate that this bill go to Transport and Communications.

I will have conversations with Senator Haig, Chairman of that committee, who is very familiar with that part of the country, frequently visiting relatives there. He knows the situation well and we will be able to work out a schedule under which the private company and all interested parties will have an opportunity to make representations.

Hon. Mr. Martin: Honourable senators, Senator Benidickson thinks that the bill should be referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications. I should have anticipated this, but I did not. Perhaps the honourable senator has looked up the rules to make sure to which committee this bill should be referred. I thought that the bill should be referred to the Foreign Affairs Committee or the Banking, Trade and Commerce Committee. Perhaps the Clerk of the Senate could tell us the rule under which this would come.

Hon. Mr. Benidickson: Honourable senators, I did not consider that this bill should go to the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Hon. Mr. Martin: What is the rule?

Hon. Mr. Benidickson: There is no finance involved.

The Hon. the Speaker: Perhaps I may be allowed to say a few words on this matter. As the Leader of the Government knows, a few days ago we looked into this matter and we thought that this bill should go to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs or the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications. Perhaps the Chairman of the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders could throw some light on this situation?

Hon. Mr. Molson: I call the attention of the house to Rule 67(h), which sets out the terms of reference of the committee. I will not read the whole rule, but it says in part:

... to which shall be referred on motion all bills, messages, petitions, inquiries, papers, and other matters relating to transport and communications generally, including:

- (i) transport and communications by land, air, water, and space, ... or any other form, method or means of communications or transport;
- (ii) tourist traffic; ...
- (v) navigation, shipping and navigable waters.

Honourable senators, I would suggest that the committee on Transport and Communications would in this case be appropriate, but that is only my personal view.

The Hon. the Speaker: If I might be allowed to add a word: I took it for granted that there would have to be an international agreement after this bill is passed, so that the Foreign Affairs Committee might be the appropriate committee.

Hon. Mr. Benidickson: It is immaterial to me which committee the bill is referred to. It is true that Washington and Ottawa have carried out certain negotiations regarding international waters, but when it comes to the construction of facilities the important negotiations will take place between the State of Minnesota and the Province of Ontario who will each provide approaches to the bridge.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Hon. Mr. Benidickson: I move that the bill be referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications.

Hon. Mr. Martin: I have great respect for the judgment of Senator Molson in this matter, but I wish to make sure that it is the view of His Honour the Speaker that this matter comes within the purview of the Committee on Transport and Communications. If that is so, then I am satisfied. Personally I have some doubts, but I will abide by His Honour's ruling.

The Hon. the Speaker: I examined the rules with my advisers and I feel that the bill could go to either committee.

Motion agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.