

Supply—Interior—National Parks

Mr. BELL (St. Antoine): I move, Mr. Chairman, that the committee rise.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): If that motion carries, undoubtedly it will kill the bill.

Mr. GUTHRIE: There can be no debate on the motion.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): On a point of order, may I ask, Mr. Chairman, whether it is in order to move that the committee rise before any business has been transacted in committee?

The CHAIRMAN: It is a legal motion.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I was going to raise the same point. In many of the provincial legislatures and in the British parliament they have a motion that the committee rise. I should like to ask if it is a proper motion to move when the house is in committee on a bill. Undoubtedly if the motion carried it will kill the bill.

The CHAIRMAN: It is a proper motion.

Motion agreed to.

COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT

Hon. C. H. CAHAN (Secretary of State): With the permission of the house, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the hon. member for Stanstead (Mr. Hackett) I ask leave to withdraw Bill No. 33, to amend the Companies Act.

Bill withdrawn.

SUPPLY

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The house in committee of supply, Mr. LaVergne in the chair.

Mr. MURPHY: When the committee rose at six o'clock I was making a few observations in reply to the right hon. leader of the opposition. National parks are a great asset to the Dominion, and are becoming increasingly so. And the people are becoming—shall I say?—park conscious. Requests are being received from various parts of the Dominion extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific that the number of these parks be increased. The right hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King) drew attention to the Prince Albert park in Saskatchewan, and rightly so, as he is the representative, I believe, of the riding in which the park is located. I can assure the right hon. gentleman that the needs of that park are considered the same as are the needs of our other national parks,

[The Chairman.]

and we are making this year a considerable improvement there, which we hope will not only add to the enjoyment of the people of Saskatchewan but will attract tourists from other parts of the Dominion as well as from the United States and other countries. I think the right hon. gentleman will be interested to know that we are establishing a water system for the convenience of those who patronize the park. I mention that in particular because I think he had that in mind when he was speaking this afternoon.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Hear, hear.

Mr. MURPHY: As I said a moment ago, requests for additional parks are coming from all over Canada. I do not believe these requests can be ignored for any great length of time. It is unfortunate that at present conditions are such that we cannot extend the services as rapidly as the people desire. The spirit is willing, but the pocket book is weak.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: If the government is contemplating a large expenditure for unemployment relief, I should like to reecho the suggestion made by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Woodsworth) that perhaps there would be no better way in which relief work could serve a double purpose than by putting men to work in these parks making roads and other improvements, and providing for them while at work and paying them. This would be to the advantage of everyone concerned.

Mr. VENIOT: Has any application for a national park been received from the government of New Brunswick?

Mr. MURPHY: A request was received some time during the autumn of last year that a survey be made of New Brunswick with a view to reporting upon the suitability of certain areas in the province for the purposes of a national park. This was done by an officer of the department. No action has as yet been taken upon his report. The information is not available except to the department for a reason which I think the hon. member will understand, that until a definite decision is arrived at in regard to this matter it should not be made public.

Mr. VENIOT: The situation is different in New Brunswick from what it is out west, where you would have to obtain land from the provincial authorities. Has the government of New Brunswick made any offer to cooperate with the Dominion by providing a park site in their wooded territory?