

home every week-end—will seriously consider the convenience of members who live farther away, and will be on hand until Saturday night.

Circumstances beyond my control make it necessary for me to be absent from Ottawa to-morrow and Saturday. I have asked the honourable senator from Inkerman (Hon. Mr. Hugessen) to lead the house in my absence. In case parliament should be prorogued before I return, I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation to honourable members for the courtesy they have extended to me. I refer not only to supporters of the government, but to members of the opposition, especially their leader (Hon. Mr. Haig) and the acting leader of to-day (Hon. Mr. Ballantyne). I realize that I am surrounded by men of great and long political experience. They have been most forbearing with regard to the sins of omission and commission which, due to inexperience, I have undoubtedly committed.

I hope honourable members will have a very happy sojourn, and will come back to the next session of parliament resolved to do even greater things.

Hon. Mr. FOSTER: And have a nice summer?

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: That is hardly possible.

Anyone who is under the impression that the Liberal majority in this house is a rubber stamp for the government would soon be undeceived if he occupied my position.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh!

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: Honourable senators, I wish to thank the government leader for the very kind reference he has made to the members of this chamber, particularly to those who sit on this side of the house. We have been treated in a very courteous and fair manner by the leader on all occasions, and I believe that all through this long and arduous session the Senate has functioned with a great deal of cordiality. During the fifteen years that I have been a member of this house I have never known the Senate to work harder or do more efficient work than it has done this session. Notwithstanding the bit of fun that certain newspapers in this country choose to poke at us, I for one am very proud of the work this house has accomplished.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON.

THE SENATE

Friday, August 30, 1946.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION BILL REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. J. E. SINCLAIR, Acting Chairman, presented the report of the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce on Bill 251, an Act to establish the Canadian Commercial Corporation.

He said: Honourable senators, the committee have examined the said bill, and now beg leave to report the same with the following amendments:

1. Page 2, line 31. After "Canada" insert "and".

2. Page 2, line 32. Leave out "and".

3. Page 2, line 33. Leave out "(c) storing and processing goods or commodities".

4. Page 3, line 36. For "a statement of such accounts" substitute "his report".

5. Page 4, lines 18 and 19. Leave out "in such form as the Minister may prescribe".

6. Page 4, line 20. After "March" insert "containing its financial statements and such information as is required to be furnished to shareholders by a company incorporated under the Companies Act, and such other information as the Minister may prescribe".

7. Page 5, after line 39. Insert the following as clause 17:

"17. (1) This Act shall expire sixty days after the commencement of the first session of Parliament commencing in the year one thousand nine hundred and forty-nine.

(2) Section nineteen of the Interpretation Act shall apply upon the expiry of this Act as if this Act had then been repealed."

For the benefit of honourable members who did not have an opportunity to be present at the committee's meeting, I might explain that these amendments are mostly of a minor character, only two of them being of much importance. One of these refers to the making of financial statements by the company. The committee added a clause requiring the company to furnish financial statements and such information as is required to be furnished to shareholders by a company incorporated under the Companies Act, and such other information as the minister may prescribe. The other amendment limits the time that the act will remain in force. No limit is specified in the bill, and the committee added clause 17, which provides that the act shall expire 60 days after the commencement of the first session of parliament commencing in the year 1949.