

The further studies which were made were discussed with the committee of the council, and again we were unable to get the council to be as positive and definite as was the engineering committee, but they did write a letter to the government members suggesting the following.

Mr. TURNER: Who was on the engineering committee? Who participated in the preparation of that letter?

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW: There was Len Stacey, myself, Col. Letson, Professor Muir, and M. A. Thomas who was the chairman; those are the members as nearly as I can remember. I think you know them very well.

Mr. TURNER: Did you prepare the draft of the letter?

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW: No, they will not let me although I would like to. They think I am too violent.

Mr. TURNER: Were you the prime impetus of the letter?

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW: I brought the matter before the engineering committee of the board of trade and they took it up—and they rather held me down.

Mr. STEWART: Mr. Chairman, are we to understand from this letter, concerning which we have heard very little, that this condemns the protocol? Are we to understand that this letter is a condemnation of the treaty and the protocol?

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW: I would not say that, no. I would be very glad to read it to you if you would like to have it read.

Mr. LEBOE: May I ask a supplementary question?

How many members of the engineering committee were engineers of repute?

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW: They were all professional engineers and there was Dr. Smith, the head of the research council at B.C. They were all professional engineers.

Mr. LEBOE: I have one more question.

Were the members hydraulic engineers? Was this their specialty? Were they in this field?

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW: They covered various fields of engineering. Perhaps if you heard the letter you might understand how a non-specialist group came to write it.

Mr. TURNER: Are they all still in active practice? I am referring to the members of your engineering committee.

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW: Very much so; every one of them.

Mr. KINDT: I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that we go on and hear this letter. We have asked enough questions about it.

Mr. BARTHOLOMEW: This letter is written by the Vancouver Board of Trade to the Hon. Paul Martin, and it is signed by G. M. Morris, who is the assistant general manager. It says:

Dear Mr. Martin: Re Columbia river treaty and protocol.

The Vancouver board of trade has had a continuing interest in the Columbia river negotiations and recently expressed gratification with the significant improvements made to the treaty by the protocol. As evidence of the board's continued interest, its subcommittee on power has now reviewed the protocol more closely. This committee is satisfied that the protocol has corrected many of the inadequacies—

I wanted to strike out the "many".

—of the original treaty—