STANDING COMMITTEE

Q. The inference is if it becomes a hardship on people they will see to it that the regulations are not effective and that they have it as people wish it and not as you wish it.

Mr. BREITHAUPT: Carried

The CHAIRMAN: Is the section carried?

Carried

We come now to a group of sections on which I think we can all agree, the powers of the board. Section 35.

Mr. MACDONNELL: My feeling about these powers is that we are going on the basis of the old story, one toot and you're oot. As far as I am concerned I am very sorry they are in there. I mean the broad ones permitting people to be arrested without warrant and all the various things that are there, but I am not going to take the time of the committee to discuss them in detail. I am just going to make one point, and I make it very earnestly. I just ask people to read those sections imagining to themselves that the people enforcing them are not the present group of gentlemen represented by Mr. Rasminsky who has been very patient even when we were most troublesome to him. Suppose we had people there whom we did not like and you have a very different attitude on the part of those people in administering this. Just let us ask ourselves if we would give them these perfectly astounding powers including all kinds of things we never would dream of giving before the war. I am going to make no great objection because I take it that it is more or less obiter dicta here, and I do not think there is any point in wasting our time and Mr. Rasminsky's time, but I certainly propose when it gets to the House to do my very best to bring it to the attention of the people of Canada and the business community who have been very careless about it, as I see it.

I feel that it is worth while for us to ask ourselves that question. Suppose these powers were going to be administered by a group of people, as they might some day, whom we did not regard with the same feelings that we do these gentlemen, and ask ourselves whether we want these astounding powers which were devised entirely for wartime and comprise things we never would have dreamed of before wartime. Yet now apparently we are going to take them calmly.

The CHAIRMAN: Sections 35 and 36 should be carried together. On division?

Mr. LESAGE: I should like to ask a question on section 36, subsection 2. I do not understand it. Are we to understand that a magisterial court has a right to establish the fair value of any property, debt, obligation, claim or service or that the question arises only if the board has not established it before?

Mr. MARIER: If the board has not decided.

The WITNESS: If the board has not determined the fair value then, as you say, the justice, magistrate or court can determine the fair value. If, however, the board has determined fair value then under a later section there is an appeal.

By Mr. Lesage:

Q. What section?—A. That is section 38. There is an appeal from the determination of the board to the court.

Mr. JACKMAN: I just wish to point out a matter which has been brought to the attention of the committee before. It has to do with section 35 (3) under which every regulation shall be laid before parliament within fifteen days after it is made or, if parliament is not then sitting, within fifteen days after the commencement of the next ensuing session thereof.

The CHAIRMAN: I have marked that "stand" for an amendment that the Hon. Mr. Abbott said he was going to bring forward. Is section 36 carried? Carried.

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