

Q. And who did you consult to form an opinion that this was the property of the province of Quebec?—A. Our solicitor.

Q. Who was that?—A. Mr. Geoffrion.

Q. And you know of references made to the Supreme Court of Canada, I suppose, in respect of that?—A. Yes.

Q. I won't ask you what Mr. Geoffrion told you about that—I think you told us that the other day—but you were one of those persons who from the first were under the impression that those rights belonged to the province?—A. Exactly.

Q. You were also aware that navigation belonged exclusively to the Dominion?—A. Yes.

Q. Or did you worry about it? Did you think about it?—A. No.

Q. Then I want to know if at the time you made this subscription, you were concerned about who owned the water rights at that time?—A. I understood that they had bought the Robert rights.

Q. And it was on the Robert rights, then, whatever they were, that moved you to subscribe to this concern?—A. Exactly.

Mr. Jones had repeatedly asked Senator Raymond if he could not do something to get some action, obviously in reference to the Dominion Order-in-Council (B132).

Q. Mr. Jones has said that he saw you repeatedly in Ottawa in 1928, and asked you—

Mr. VIEN: I think my learned friend will find that Mr. Jones has not stated definitely that he has seen the senator in Ottawa. He stated that he had seen the senator, but I do not believe it was in Ottawa.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not think, Mr. Vien, really that you need interrupt him. He is treating the witness very fairly.

Mr. VIEN: Mr. Chairman, I am sure that I hope I am not interrupting as meaning that Mr. Smith is not treating the witness very fairly; he is, I am convinced, but I think it is better to correct some inaccuracies of fact which are unintentional than to let those go on record incorrectly, for the greater comprehension of the record. I did not want to interfere unduly.

Mr. SMITH: I will leave out the word Ottawa; it is immaterial to me; Mr. Jones said this, on page A391—he had been asked as to what he was doing to further his project, then the word "assisted" was used, and counsel for the Committee said this, "It is a common English word," and Jones replied, "Well, my answer is that anybody who took an interest in it and who listened and got his view as to who owned the water, gave us their opinions by way of assistance, otherwise direct assistance, nobody that I know of." Then he says, "I certainly asked Senator Raymond over and over again if he could not do something to get some action."

*By Mr. Smith:*

Q. Now, did he do that?

Mr. VIEN: Will you finish the thing?

Mr. SMITH (reading): "—Now, I think I should perhaps mention I thought that perhaps the Premier was waiting for this assistance of the reference case to the Supreme Court."

The WITNESS: Mr. Jones asked me, but the fact that he said over and over again means that I had not done very much in the matter of helping him.

*By Mr. Smith:*

Q. But did Mr. Jones over and over again ask if you could not get some action—and of course that action was at Ottawa at that time, wasn't it?—A. I couldn't say.