

drawers of water to a few people, many of whom made their fortunes by doubtful methods at that time?

The Prime Minister says that we must maintain our credit.

At six o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant* to standing order.

Thursday, June 20, 1935

The house met at three o'clock.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PRIVATE BILLS

Third report of the select standing committee on miscellaneous private bills—Mr. Stinson.

CANADIAN GRAIN BOARD

First report of the special committee on Bill No. 98, to provide for the constitution and powers of the Canadian grain board—Mr. Bennett.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT

Mr. F. W. TURNBULL (Regina) presented the second report of the special committee on the British North America Act, as follows:

The special committee of the House of Commons, appointed to study and report on the best method by which the British North America Act may be amended so that while safeguarding the existing rights of racial and religious minorities and legitimate provincial claims to autonomy, the dominion government may be given adequate power to deal effectively with urgent economic problems which are essentially national in scope, begs leave to present the following as its second and final report.

Your committee has held ten sessions and has heard the opinions of a number of witnesses.

Under the instructions of the committee, telegrams were sent to the respective attorneys-general of the nine provinces in the following terms:

"The special committee of the House of Commons on the British North America Act desires to have the views of your government with respect to methods of securing amendments to said act. The resolution referred to the committee follows: 'Resolved that in the opinion of this house a special committee should be set up to study and report on the best method by which the British North America Act may be amended so that while safeguarding the existing rights of racial and religious minorities and legitimate provincial claims to autonomy, the dominion government may be given adequate power to deal effec-

tively with urgent economic problems which are essentially national in scope.' While the committee does not object to the personal attendance of a representative of your government it was thought less costly to ask for a written submission. Copies of proceedings have been sent you. Please intimate when we may expect to receive your submission."

The following answers were received:—

Prince Edward Island—"Your wire March twenty-seventh. Government of Prince Edward Island is of opinion that dominion government should formulate its plan and policy for the purposes intended and that this should be submitted to the provincial governments and afterwards discussed at a conference of representatives of the provinces and the dominion." Signed by H. F. MacPhee, Attorney-General.

New Brunswick—"Will wire views as soon as available. Delay unavoidable." Signed by W. H. Harrison, Attorney-General. (New Brunswick views not yet received).

Nova Scotia—"Our legislature now in session and most difficult to attend to matter of this kind now in way you suggest. We feel matter should be approached by conferences between representatives of provinces and dominion where each would have the views of the other and ample time to discuss the matter." Signed by J. H. MacQuarrie, Attorney-General.

Quebec—"Your telegram received. Surely the committee cannot expect that the views of the province of Quebec will be discussed by a change of telegrams or letters. In a matter of such importance I suggest that a conference of the dominion and the provinces should be held." Signed by L. A. Taschereau, Attorney-General.

Ontario—"Province of Ontario does not desire to make any representation before your committee re British North America Act amendment as no good purpose will be served by attempting to advise dominion government at this time." Signed by A. W. Roebuck, Attorney-General.

Manitoba—"With further reference to your telegram of the 27th March, to the attorney-general and to his reply of the 5th instant, the government have now had an opportunity of giving consideration to the suggestion that it should make a written submission regarding the subject matter that is before your committee.

"The government of Manitoba is of the opinion that the subject matter referred to in the resolution is one of such importance that no written submission, setting out our views in reference to it, should be made without a conference with the other provinces and the dominion government. We would be willing to attend such a conference at any time, with a view to arriving at a definite method of procedure for making amendments to the British North America Act." Signed by John Bracken.

Saskatchewan—"Referring to your telegram of the twenty-seventh day of March wherein you requested the government of the province to make representations either orally or by written memoranda as to the methods of