

Canadian National Railways

presented without discussion, I do not know that anybody on this side will object. The government may object, and, if they do, the motion is transferred to the notices to be debated.

Mr. Crocket: But suppose that a notice comes from the other side, and a discussion is desired on this side, it would seem that there is no provision for that. If the government have a right to transfer a motion to the orders by requiring discussion, there should be some provision by which members on this side should have the same right with regard to notices from the other side.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier: I think there is something in that. The difficulty could be obviated by providing not "if on such motion the government may desire debate", but "if on such motion debate is desired".

That does give the right to anyone in the house to ask that the motion be transferred to notices of motions.

Mr. Lancaster: That is my point.

Mr. U. Wilson: How would that affect it so far as the order paper is concerned? Would it go to the foot of the orders?

Sir Wilfrid Laurier: It would go to notices of motion.

Mr. U. Wilson: But if it went low on the order paper it might not be reached again.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier: It would take its place at the end of notices of motions of that day. The clerk will see to that.

Mr. U. Wilson: If there were many notices on the paper and it were put at the foot, it might never be reached again.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier: Possibly—it will take that chance.

Amendment agreed to.

This is how standing order 51 came about. In 1915 a notice of motion was opposed by Hon. Mr. Reid, who was then minister of customs, and as found at page 611 of *Hansard* of March 3 he said:

It has not been the custom of the department to bring down papers of this kind; they are always treated as confidential.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier was then in the opposition, and he rose and said:

If there is objection to the motion it should be transferred to notices of motion for discussion when it comes up again.

Mr. Reid: I have no objection to its being transferred, if necessary.

Motion transferred to notices of motion.

This is the way that standing order 51 was interpreted in those days, and that is the reason why earlier in the session I made certain appeals to hon. members. I did so because I think that we have got away from the practice intended in those days, which practice was followed almost consistently until about 1935, I believe.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

**TABLING OF BUDGET AND REPORT OF
SECURITIES TRUST**

Mr. L. Langlois (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marler) I beg leave to table the capital

[Mr. Speaker.]

budget of the Canadian National Railways and Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships Limited, for the calendar year 1955; also the annual report of the Canadian National Railways securities trust, for the year ended December 31, 1954, in English and in French.

TRANSPORT

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF NEW
WHARFAGE FEES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. R. Pearkes (Esquimalt-Saanich): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Will the minister reconsider giving effect to the new wharfage fees on automobiles and trucks which, according to P.C. 1683 of November 3, 1954, are to come into force on April 1?

Hon. George C. Marler (Minister of Transport): Various representations concerning wharfage charges have already been made to me by several members on this side of the house, so that I have had an opportunity to look into the matter. All the representations received are being considered in order to determine if changes should be made in the tariffs authorized by order in council P.C. 1954-1683.

Mr. Pearkes: Could the new wharfage fees be held in abeyance until the minister has an opportunity to make a final decision?

Mr. Marler: I hope that the consideration will not be too long and we shall be able to come to a conclusion very shortly.

FISHERIES

**REPORTED DAMAGE ON NORTH SHORE OF
LAKE ERIE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. James A. McBain (Elgin): I wish to direct a question, in the absence of the Minister of Fisheries, to his parliamentary assistant. Has the minister been made aware of the widespread damage the furious gales and storms did to the fishing industry on the north shore of lake Erie during the past week? If so, has he been asked for any assistance by the fishermen's associations or by the provincial government?

Mr. J. Watson MacNaught (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Fisheries): We had no notice of the hon. member's intention to ask the question, so we will have to take it as notice.