

That a Special Committee of the Senate be appointed to inquire into and to report from time to time upon:—

(a) The statements and charges in regard to administration of the Canadian Government Merchant Marine and Canadian National Railways, made by Honourable J. D. Taylor in this Chamber on May 8th of the present year.

(b) The acquisition of the property in Paris, France, known as the "Scribe Hotel," and all dealings, transactions and payments in relation to said property.

(c) The employment or engagement of one Aronivici by the said Canadian National Railways, the services performed by him, if any, and the commission, salary or other remuneration paid to him by or on behalf of the said Canadian National Railways.

(d) The system of the purchase of supplies for the use of or in connection with the said Canadian National Railway System.

(e) The deposit by and withdrawal of the Canadian National Railway Company of \$1,000,000 of public funds in or about the month of May, 1923, with the Home Bank of Canada.

(f) Generally all questions, matters and things, which in the discretion of the Committee, arise out of or incidental to the foregoing matters, or which the Committee deem to be necessary to inquire into.

(g) That the said inquiry shall be subject to the condition that no matter of operation or of management taking place in the year 1924, inquiry into which would in the opinion of the Management of the said system be prejudicial to the property of the system or its proper operation, shall be made subject of investigation.

(h) That the said Committee be composed of the Honourable Messrs.

(i) That the said Committee be empowered to take evidence under oath and to send for persons, papers and records and to employ such clerical and other aid as the Committee deem necessary for the purpose of the inquiry.

Hon. JULES TESSIER: Honourable gentlemen, I do not intend to discuss this motion at length. When I moved the adjournment of the debate, in the early hours of the morning, I was under the emotion created by the very eloquent words of the honourable Senator for Simcoe (Hon. Mr. Bennett). The fact is, I never heard a more eloquent speech to defend such a bad cause. The speech was a very long one, and I had hoped to be able to read it in Hansard in order to answer it in a fitting manner. But it is really too late now, and I am sure the honourable member for Simcoe will not object to the postponement of this matter till next Session, so that we may have time to read his speeches over again and probably arrive at a wiser solution. It is too late now to appoint a Committee, and I trust the honourable member for Simcoe will assent to the postponement of his motion till next Session.

Hon. Mr. BENNETT: Honourable gentlemen, I regret the attitude taken by the Government on this matter throughout. When it first came up, in view of the urgency of the Railway Bills then before the House, I was indulgence itself. I had hoped that, in return for the consideration shown in refrain-

ing from pressing for an investigation then, the Government would have assented to a reasonable proposition in respect to the charges I preferred, namely, that witnesses be brought here from Montreal. However, the Government has seen fit to block all inquiry in this matter by having some honourable gentleman on the other side of the House come to the rescue on every occasion by intervening in the debate and thereby preventing a vote. In view of the determination of the Government to stop any inquiry this Session, I would not ask or advise honourable gentlemen on this side to continue the debate. It is now out of the question to have any inquiry into this matter. I will only express the fervent hope that between now and next Session there may be a general election, and I think that in that event there will be no inquiry needed regarding certain of these men whose transactions have been exposed. Let me assure you that if there is not an election and these Augean stables of the Canadian National Railways are not thoroughly cleaned out by next Session and if I am here then, as I hope to be, there will be an inquiry started at the very beginning of the Session, and I shall prove then, as I can prove, matters that will reflect much more on the officials of this Government than have any of the statements I have already made here.

I have not introduced any charges against minor officials. I discard them. Unlike an honourable gentleman, Mr. Bourassa, one of the Government's supporters in another place, I do not condescend to drag in some petty official. Among the thousands and thousands of employees of the National Railways of Canada there cannot but be some black sheep. I am not concerned with them. I shall hit in the right place—at the head officials. As the rain falls from above and soaks into the ground, so the conduct of the leading officials of the Canadian National influences the subordinate officials and permeates the system. I have, in writing and otherwise, the assurance of many of the lower officials of the Railways—not the group at headquarters in Montreal—that they would to-day welcome an inquiry. I repeat that among the Canadian National employees there are thousands and thousands of the finest men on the continent, and it does not need the blaring notes of the President of the road, transmitted through the radio, and paid for at extravagant rates by the people of Canada, to tell us about the morale of these men. When the President came he found these men honest, straightforward and true;