MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Room 231,

June 20th, 1934.

The Select Standing Committee on Railways and Shipping owned, operated and controlled by the Government met this day at 11 o'clock, a.m., in accordance with notice issued. Mr. Chaplin, the Chairman, presided. The following members were present:—

Messieurs Beaubier, Bothwell, Cantley, Chaplin, Euler, Fiset (Sir Eugene), Fraser (Cariboo), Geary, Gobeil, Hanbury, Manion, Power, Price and Stewart (Lethbridge).

In attendance were: Hon. C. P. Fullerton, K.C., Chairman of Board of Trustees, Canadian National Railways; Mr. J. E. Labelle, K.C., Trustee, Canadian National Railways; Mr. S. J. Hungerford, President, Canadian National Railways; Mr. S. W. Fairweather, Canadian National Railways; Mr. V. I. Smart, Deputy Minister, Department of Railways and Canals; Mr. P. M. Anderson, Counsel, Department of Railways and Canals; Mr. A. V. Franklin, Auditor, Department of Railways and Canals; Mr. B. J. Roberts, Department of Finance; Mr. J. O. Apps, Assistant to Executive, Canadian Pacific Railway; Mr. O. A. Matthews, of George. A. Touche & Company, Accountants and Auditors, Toronto, Ontario.

The Chairman said the Minister of Railways and Canals wished to explain to the Committee two Bills. The Minister then read letters from the President of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Canadian National Railways requesting him to have the following Bills passed by Parliament:—

1. A Bill to incorporate Canadian Communications, Ltd.

2. A Bill to incorporate the Canadian Railway Express Company; the purpose of these Bills being to facilitate further economies in operating, provided the two Railways arrive at a satisfactory agreement. The Minister explained that his object in bringing these before the Committee was to obtain the approval of the Committee which might assist him in getting the unanimous consent of the House to introduce the Bills to-day. It was pointed out that members of the Committee could speak only for themselves, and that any member of the House might refuse consent. The Minister decided to introduce the Bills in the regular way.

The following witnesses were called and examined: Hon. C. P. Fullerton, K.C., Chairman of Board of Trustees, Canadian National Railways; Mr. J. E. Labelle, K.C., Trustee, Canadian National Railways; Mr. S. J. Hungerford, President, Canadian National Railways; Mr. S. W. Fairweather, Canadian National Railways; Mr. V. I. Smart, Deputy Minister, Department of Railways and Canals; Mr. P. M. Anderson, Counsel, Department of Railways and Canals; Mr. J. O. Apps, Assistant to Executive, Canadian Pacific Railway.

Some discussion took place regarding the proposed Bills, and an amendment was suggested to the effect that the Canadian National Railways should always have at least fifty per cent of the voting stock of the new companies. Mr. Anderson was asked to frame an amendment accordingly, which he did.