

*Proposed Legislation***PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**TABLING OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDITOR
GENERAL'S REPORT

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, may I acquaint the house of the fact that I have today tabled the report of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1960, in English and in French, and copies in English of volumes I and II of the public accounts for the same fiscal year. The French edition of the public accounts will be available, it is expected, about February 1 and will be tabled immediately it is received.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYSQUEBEC—AUTHORITY FOR CONSTRUCTION
OF BRANCH LINE

Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution, which has been recommended to the house by His Excellency:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to provide that the C.N.R. Railway Company may construct a line of railway from a point at or near Mile 72 of the Klask falls subdivision to Mattagami lake, in the province of Quebec, and to authorize temporary loans to the company out of the consolidated revenue fund, not exceeding \$9,660,000 to enable the work of construction and completion of the railway line to proceed forthwith; and to authorize the company to issue and the governor in council to guarantee securities to finance the expenditures upon the said line up to the said figure.

Motion agreed to.

TARIFF BOARD ACTAMENDMENTS INCREASING MEMBERSHIP,
PROVIDING FOR SALARIES, ETC.

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution, which has been recommended to the house by His Excellency:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Tariff Board Act to increase the number of members of the board from five to seven, and to provide for the salaries of the new members; and to provide further for consequential amendments designed to facilitate the adoption by the board of a panel system.

Motion agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

POSTPONEMENT OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' MONDAY

Mr. Speaker: Before calling the next order, which takes us beyond routine proceedings, I think it is my duty to call the attention of the house to the rule applicable this session which permits the government to postpone

[Mr. Fleming (Eglinton).]

private members' Mondays for two successive Mondays, which is the rule governing at the present time.

When the order of business for today was announced before the adjournment the house leader indicated this would be the resumption of the budget debate, making it a government day. As the preceding private members' Mondays had been used for government business this was in conflict with the rule under which this day necessarily is a private members' day, unless the house otherwise orders by unanimous consent.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I notice that when the house leader referred to the business for today he stated that we would proceed with the budget. That, of course, we cannot do without unanimous consent on the part of the house. We are in the hands of the house in this regard. If the house will accept an informal suggestion—or motion, if you will, as informally put as I am now putting it—that this day be one for the discussion of the budget rather than a private members' day, we will proceed as outlined by the house leader.

If on the other hand we have not unanimous support, then naturally it will be private members' day.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillin-gate): Mr. Speaker, I was in the house at the time the business was announced when we adjourned, and I had understood from the hon. member on the other side who was looking after the business of the house that there was an understanding. It was in that spirit that I accepted the announcement, and I feel sure that so far as the official opposition are concerned we accept it in that spirit.

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the effective opposition I wish to say that providing a day is reserved for us at another time, we agree with the suggestion made by the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Then does the house give its unanimous consent to the use of this day as forecast by the house leader, without of course depriving the house of a private members' Monday, which is postponed. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

SINCLAIR REPORT ON B.C. FISHING INDUSTRY

Motion No. 19—Mr. Pickersgill:

For a copy of the report submitted to the Department of Fisheries by Dr. Sinclair on the British Columbia fishing industry.