

No. 80

JOURNALS

OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

OF CANADA

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1975

2.00 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS

Mr. Campbell (LaSalle-Émard-Côte Saint-Paul), from the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, presented the Fifth Report of the Committee, which is as follows:

Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Friday, February 7, 1975, your Committee has considered Bill C-367, An Act to amend the Fort-Falls Bridge Authority Act, and has agreed to report it without amendment.

A copy of the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence relating to this Bill (*Issue No. 8*) is tabled.

(*The Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence accompanying the Report recorded as Appendix No. 44 to the Journals*).

Consideration was resumed on the questions of privilege raised by the honourable Member for Laprairie on Friday, February 14, 1975 and by the honourable Member for Montreal-Bourassa on Wednesday, February 19, 1975.

RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

MR. SPEAKER: While on the subject of questions of privilege, I indicated earlier I would endeavour to deal with two very important questions of privilege that are before the House at the present time.

The first is that raised by the honourable Member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson) which relates to the facts as described by the honourable Member. They are simply that in a matter before a federal tribunal, namely the Canadian Labour Relations Board, a federal Crown corporation, namely Air Canada, had made representations that, at least on the honourable Member's interpretation which I accept, Members of Parliament ought not to interfere personally in the relationships between employee and employer in that corporation and, more particularly, in the proceedings before that Board and, I assume, even by their presence at the hearings.

Following the description put forward by the honourable Member, which I accept, the stance would be one that is contrary not only to what a Member of Parliament is free to do or entitled to do but it would seem, in addition, to refer to what he might find himself obliged to do by virtue of his capacity as a Member of Parliament.