

## SECOND REPORT

THURSDAY, March 17, 1932.

The Special Committee appointed to enquire into certain charges and allegations made by the Honourable George N. Gordon, K.C., beg leave to present the following as a Second Report.

After hearing the evidence, your Committee is agreed that the charges and allegations contained in the extracts from *The Globe* newspaper, as set out in the Order of Reference, were, in fact, made upon public occasions in Hamilton, Ont., on January 6, 1932, and in Lindsay, Ont., on January 8, 1932, by the Honourable George N. Gordon, K.C., as reported in *The Globe* newspaper of Toronto, Ont., with the exception that the words "Mrs. Herridge" appear in *The Globe* of January 6, whereas the words "Mr. Herridge" were those used.

As to the statement that a new Private Car was constructed for the use of the Prime Minister at a cost to the people of Canada of \$125,000, your Committee feels that this charge is of a relatively minor character, it being a charge of extravagant expenditure, and not one of misappropriation. It finds, however, that the statements made in this respect gave an entirely erroneous impression of the transaction, and were not warranted by the facts as brought out in evidence. Your Committee points out that there has been no increase in the number of Government Private Cars since the present Government assumed office.

As to the charges and allegations so made, other than that above dealt with, your Committee is of the opinion that they were of a most serious nature, calculated to do injury to the reputation of the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett, Prime Minister of Canada, a Member of the House of Commons; and your Committee finds that the charges and allegations so made were untrue.

Your Committee finds further that these charges and allegations were made with the intention of injuring the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett, Prime Minister of Canada, a Member of the House of Commons, in his office as Prime Minister, and were made recklessly and without any adequate attempt to ascertain, before making them, whether they were true or untrue.

In the opinion of your Committee, the conduct of Mr. Gordon in making the statements he did was reprehensible and deserving of the censure of the House of Commons, the more so as Mr. Gordon is a Member of the King's Privy Council for the Dominion of Canada.

A copy of the proceedings and evidence taken, together with the exhibits filed, is attached.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. R. GEARY,  
*Chairman.*