

Mr. Pennell, from the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, presented the Fifth Report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

On Wednesday, November 6, 1963, the House of Commons adopted the following Order:

“That the question of Raymond Spencer Rodgers’ right to use the facilities of the Press Gallery be referred for quick study and a report back to the House on its merits by the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections.”

Pursuant to this Order, the Committee held four meetings and heard the following witnesses:

Mr. Raymond Rodgers,
Mr. G. J. Connolley,
Mr. Arthur Blakely, and
Mr. Clément Brown.

The evidence given by Dr. Ollivier before the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections on December 11, 1962, was also tabled before the Committee and reproduced as an Appendix to the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, Issue No. 16.

The Committee has considered Mr. Rodgers’ right to use the facilities of the Canadian Parliamentary Press Gallery and has agreed to recommend:

That while this Committee recognizes that Parliament has jurisdiction over the public facilities granted the members of the Press, we feel that this jurisdiction over the public facilities must be exercised through the Speaker or his delegated representative. Therefore, the case of Mr. Rodgers is referred to Mr. Speaker for decision.

The Committee further recommends:

That the Special Committee on Procedure and Organization, at the next session of Parliament, consider the expediency of reviewing the relations now existing between the Speaker and the Canadian Parliamentary Press Gallery on the one hand and the relations now existing between the House of Commons itself and the Canadian Parliamentary Press Gallery on the other hand.

A copy of the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence in relation to this Order of Reference (*Issues No. 3, 4, 5 and 16*) is appended.

(The Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence accompanying the said Report recorded as Appendix No. 13 to the Journals)

Mr. Pennell, from the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, presented the Sixth Report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

On Friday, July 26, 1963, the House of Commons ordered as follows:

“That the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections be empowered to study the Canada Elections Act, and the several amendments thereto suggested by the Chief Electoral Officer; and to report to the House such proposals relating to the said Act as the Committee may deem advisable.”

Since that time, and in connection with the Canada Elections Act, the Committee has held 22 regular sittings. As well, a number of meetings of the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure have been held.