

companies while railway shops have worked only sixteen days a month for the past three years.

W. Lyons,

Recording Secretary,
73 Dufferin street, Stratford.

My question to the minister to-day arises out of his answer yesterday to a similar question. I could not quite hear the minister's reply to my question yesterday and I did not know what his answer was until I read it in *Hansard* this morning. He says that the government has not come to any decision with regard to this equipment which is to be made either by private companies or in the railway shops, but that the matter has been considered. My question of the minister to-day is how long will it take the government to make a decision, and when they do make a decision, will the minister immediately inform the house and the country what it is?

Hon. R. J. MANION (Minister of Railways and Canals): Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not think there is any answer coming to the hon. gentleman. The government, if it makes a decision on this question, will submit it to the house at the proper time.

RADIO BROADCAST OF OPENING

On the orders of the day:

Mr. THOMAS REID (New Westminster): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Marine (Mr. Duranleau). I should like to ask if the statement appearing in the Vancouver Province of January 17 is correct, that millions of listeners-in in Great Britain were deprived of hearing the broadcast of the opening of the Canadian parliament because the Canadian Radio Commission did not consider the broadcast momentous enough to send outside of this country.

Hon. ALFRED DURANLEAU (Minister of Marine): The article referred to has not come under my notice, but I shall be glad to take cognizance of it and give the answer I shall receive from the radio commission.

ELECTORAL LISTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. C. G. POWER (Quebec South): I should like to direct a question to the hon. Secretary of State (Mr. Cahan) arising out of the statement he made on Friday last, appearing on page 5 of *Hansard*, to the effect that the electoral lists would be completed about April 15. In that connection may I point out that under the Dominion Franchise Act a very important work begins on April 1, namely, that of clearing the electoral lists of names of

persons who are dead or who have moved, and so forth. The only time at which objections to names on the basic electoral list can be made is during the month of April, and I put it to the Secretary of State that if the lists are not received by hon. members and their organizations until after the fifteenth day of April, it will be extremely difficult to proceed with the important work of clearing the lists. My question to the Secretary of State is as to whether it would not be possible, at least in the congested urban constituencies, to supply the lists earlier so that this important work may begin at the time provided for by the statute, namely, on the first of April.

Hon. C. H. CAHAN (Secretary of State): As at present advised I do not think there will be any difficulty in supplying the urban lists and placing them at the disposition of the franchise commissioner at such time or times as are necessary for him and the revising officers appointed by him to carry out the terms of the act.

Mr. POWER: May I point out, as perhaps the Secretary of State has misunderstood me, that this is a non-controversial matter and that it affects all members from urban constituencies. The act by section 25 provides that notices to objections to names on the list shall be made during the month of April, not at the time of revision in the month of May, but during the month of April, in writing. Now if the lists have not been circulated and are not in the hands of members and their organizations during the month of April it will be extremely difficult for them to take means to register their objections. That is the point I wish to lay before the Secretary of State. I would ask him to make a further study of the Dominion Franchise Act in order to ascertain whether the point I bring before him is not well taken.

Mr. CAHAN: The point which the hon. gentleman makes may be considered well taken, but these lists are being printed from day to day and week to week, and I think there is no doubt that from time to time the urban lists will be placed in the hands of the franchise commissioner for distribution probably during the months of February and March.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The house resumed from Monday, January 21, consideration of the motion of Mr. W. E. Rowe for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session.