

No. 107

JOURNALS

OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

OF CANADA

OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1966.

2.30 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS.

Mr. Basford for Mr. Pelletier, from the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts, presented the Ninth Report of the said Committee which is as follows:

1. On Tuesday, April 19, 1966, the Prime Minister was asked in the House of Commons whether he would "arrange for an immediate convening of the Standing Committee on Broadcasting in order that it will have an opportunity to discuss the problems which have been reported to have arisen between management and the creative people of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation."

2. Mr. Pearson replied: "It is my understanding that the Committee has been set up and that the estimates including those of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation have been referred to it for consideration. I shall be glad to get in touch with the Chairman of that committee to find out whether it is convenient to arrange for an immediate meeting." (*Hansard*, p. 3983)

3. On the same day, both parties to the Seven Days dispute, namely Messrs. J. Alphonse Ouimet, President of the CBC and Patrick Watson, one of the co-hosts of the program Seven Days, contacted the Chairman of the committee to inform him that they were ready to appear before the committee if it was the wish of the committee.

4. On April 21, your Committee heard its first witnesses. On that occasion, the Secretary of State, Honourable Judy LaMarsh, made the following remarks in the course of her opening statement before the committee:

"There is one particular point, however, on which judging by the comments in the House earlier in the week, you might expect me to elaborate. I refer to my comments before another forum, last week end, to the effect that, in my judgement, the controversy over the personnel on Seven Days was merely symptomatic of a wider problem within the CBC. I think I referred to it as a sort of "tip of an iceberg".