

Last year I spoke of the importance of this type of committee. However, since the opening of the present session no bill has been submitted to the Committee of the Whole. To my mind that is unfortunate, because honourable senators are deprived of an opportunity to become better acquainted with the legislation which is put before them.

With regard to the ruling of the Honourable the Speaker, I stand by him as though he were the Rock of Gibraltar. I say the same of my honourable friend the Leader of the Opposition in this chamber (Hon. Mr. Macdonald), in reference to his Speakership of the House of Commons. But in practice the Senate rules as interpreted by our Speaker are superior to those of the other house, for he never quotes Beauchesne! I am satisfied with the rulings of the Chair, even when the Chair does not support my contention. I may be wrong at times—seldom, if you like, honourable gentlemen—but I admit that human nature is weak and occasionally I may be led into error. Here in the Senate we are fortunate to have a good Speaker. We have not to lean on the practice nor on the rules of the House of Commons; we have our own. They are not perfect, and some improvements may come in due course—as to that, nobody knows—but as they are, our rules are better than those of any other Parliamentary institution. We must stand by them, and at all times they should be applied with clearness and tolerance, as His Honour our Speaker does.

AUTHORITY TO PRINT COMMITTEE  
PROCEEDINGS

**Hon. Salter A. Hayden**, Chairman of the Banking and Commerce Committee, presented a report of the committee on Bill 237.

The report was read by the Clerk as follows:

The Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce to whom was referred the Bill (237) intituled: "An Act to provide for the Stabilization of the Prices of Agricultural Commodities", report as follows:

Your committee recommend that authority be granted for the printing of 800 copies in English and 200 copies in French of their proceedings on the said bill.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Hayden, the report was adopted.

NATIONAL GALLERY

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ANSWER TO  
INQUIRY

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Jean-François Pouliot**: Honourable senators, I wish to thank the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Haig)

and tender him my appreciation for the complete answer he succeeded in getting from the National Gallery with regard to the prices of pictures and the firms from which they were bought. It is satisfactory; and I believe that, in the final analysis, Canadian artists will benefit from the information.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON CANADA'S  
ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

INQUIRY AS TO REPORTS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Thomas Reid**: Honourable senators, may I direct a question to the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Haig)? From time to time reports appear in the press in connection with the Gordon Commission—the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects—and my question is, whether the Leader will be so kind as to ascertain whether the commission is reporting periodically to the Government, and if so, are these reports available to members of Parliament?

**Hon. Mr. Haig**: I understand that certain temporary reports have been handed out, but I do not know that that is so. My information, like my honourable friend's, is derived from newspapers. It never came in the ordinary way to the Government at all.

**Hon. Mr. Reid**: Would the honourable leader make some inquiries?

**Hon. Mr. Haig**: I do not know who has the information, but I will make inquiries.

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION REPORT  
CONCURRED IN

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the report of the Civil Service Commission recommending change in compensation for the class of Chief Cataloguing Librarian, Library of Parliament, which report was presented yesterday.

**Hon. William R. Brunt** moved that the report be concurred in.

The motion was agreed to.

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

**Hon. Mr. Haig**: Honourable senators, I move that the house adjourn.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald**: Before we adjourn, will the honourable the Leader of the Government state what business there may be for the balance of the week, and whether there will be adjournment as usual on Thursday?