

Sir EUGENE Fiset: I should be granted the privilege of stating that what I said in the house yesterday was absolutely accurate and that it is only fair to myself as well as to the Prime Minister that full information should be given to this house. This information was given to the committee.

Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): I should think the proper time to discuss this matter would be when the house goes into committee on the bill in question.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: Surely I have the privilege of endeavouring to dispel the doubt which my hon. friend has cast upon the accuracy of my statement.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Rimouski (Sir Eugène Fiset) might state briefly his question of privilege and then if he desires to discuss the legislation he can do so at the proper time.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: I do not desire to discuss the legislation, I desire to state most emphatically that full and detailed information on the estimates of the Canadian National Railways was supplied to the committee, both in verbal and transcript form.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order, order.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: I have that transcript in my hand at the present time.

Mr. BENNETT: The documents speak for themselves and the document from which I read yesterday was the official report which I obtained from the library. I was not present at the meetings of the committee which dealt with this matter and I was merely taking that report. If it is desired that I should quote the report, when we reach the committee stage of the bill, I shall do so.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: Surely I have the right to ask my hon. friend—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order, order.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: I have no intention of insulting the Prime Minister; I desire only to be fair to him and to myself.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order, order.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: I want to give to the house complete and detailed information in connection with my statement.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has stated his question of privilege and the Prime Minister has replied; surely that is sufficient at the present time.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Prime Minister stated—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order, order.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: I desire to speak, Mr. Speaker, and I want to be fair to my hon. friend as well as to myself.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order, order.

Mr. BENNETT: I think one now can understand a little better the incident that happened the other day.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: That is very small.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Even the Ottawa Journal is complaining.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR
GENERAL

CONGRATULATIONS TO LORD WILLINGDON UPON
THE OCCASION OF HIS BIRTHDAY

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think it is but fitting that this house should take notice of the fact that to-day the representative of the crown in Canada is celebrating his sixty-fourth birthday. It has not happened before that the parliament of Canada has been in session when that anniversary was reached and I think I but speak, not in my capacity of first minister of the crown, but for the moment as leader of the house on behalf of all the members now assembled, when I express our very best wishes and our sincere hope that he may live many, many years to enjoy such anniversaries and discharge with increasing lustre those difficult duties with which he has been entrusted for so many years. His Excellency has been the representative of the crown in various parts of the British Empire, a service commenced in the mother of parliaments has been extended to India and at present finds great opportunity for development in this great Dominion of Canada. On behalf of the House of Commons of Canada I am sure I did not exceed my authority when this morning on behalf of all members I extended best wishes for his health and happiness, and many returns of this happy day.