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Monthly—

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Occasional—

Looking Ahead; Notre vie de demain.

### CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

#### PROVISION TO MEET CERTAIN EXPENDITURES AND GUARANTEE OF SECURITIES AND INDEBTEDNESS

Right Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to bring in a measure to authorize the Canadian National Railway Company to issue securities not exceeding \$22,550,000 in principal amount to provide the moneys necessary to meet capital expenditures made or capital indebtedness incurred during the calendar year 1946; to authorize the governor in council to guarantee the principal and interest of securities issued by the company for the purpose aforesaid; to authorize the making of temporary loans to the said company secured by such securities and not exceeding \$22,500,000 in principal amount to enable the said company to meet such expenditures and indebtedness; with authority to give financial aid and assistance to other companies of the said national system.

He said: His Excellency the Governor General, having been made acquainted with the subject matter of this resolution, recommends it to the consideration of the house.

Mr. GRAYDON: On a question of privilege, it would appear that Mr. Speaker's reading of the resolution was somewhat different from that which appears on the order paper, and we should like to know with which resolution the Governor General has been made acquainted.

Mr. SPEAKER: This motion is not debatable.

Mr. BLACK (Yukon): The resolution on the order paper is not the one read by Your Honour.

Mr. SPEAKER: In those circumstances I will permit the hon. gentleman to give an explanation.

Mr. ILSLEY: I did not follow Your Honour's reading of the resolution, but I am told by one of my colleagues that through inadvertence Your Honour read one line of the resolution twice.

[Mr. Fraser.]

Mr. STIRLING: It was a great deal more than that.

Mr. ILSLEY: The hon. gentleman will have to explain what is wrong. This is the resolution that has received approval.

Mr. GRAYDON: Do we take it that the resolution on the order paper is the one which the minister has moved and which has received the commendation of the Governor General?

Mr. ILSLEY: Correct.

Motion agreed to.

[Later:]

DISCREPANCY BETWEEN RESOLUTION READ BY MR. SPEAKER AND RESOLUTION ON ORDER PAPER

Mr. SPEAKER: This afternoon, after I read the motion of the Minister of Finance under the item "Government Notices of Motion", the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon) drew the attention of the minister to the fact that the motion read by Mr. Speaker and the motion on the order paper were not similar. Since that incident happened, I had an opportunity to compare the two motions and to ask for an explanation. With the permission of hon. members I shall read to them the memorandum which has been prepared for my information.

There would seem to have been a discrepancy between the resolution as read by Mr. Speaker this afternoon in the house respecting the Canadian National Railway finances and the resolution as it appears on the order paper. The practice has always been to make up these resolutions as they appear in the back of the *Votes and Proceedings* under "Notices of Motions". This was done in this case as part of the regular procedure in the journals office. Whenever there is any correction or alteration made by the minister or member in charge, there has always existed an arrangement by which the journals office is notified in advance so that the corrected resolution or notice of motion may be substituted before it reaches Mr. Speaker. This was not done in this particular case and as a consequence the wrong resolution was placed before Mr. Speaker. I might point out in this connection that the reason that such papers are made up in advance is that the house sometimes decides to proceed with its business as it is printed in the back of the *Votes and Proceedings*. This often occurs toward the end of the session. I may say that steps are being taken to prevent a recurrence of the incident.