

## CANADA

# House of Commons Debates

### OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, February 21, 1939

The house met at three o'clock.

#### RADIO BROADCASTING

CONCURRENCE IN FIRST REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. A. L. BEAUBIEN (Provencher) presented the first report of the special committee on radio broadcasting, and moved that the report be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

#### PRIVILEGE—MR. MANION

REPORT IN GLOBE AND MAIL OF SPEECH OF LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

On the order for motions:

Hon. R. J. MANION (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of privilege, something which I have rarely had to do in the number of years I have been in this house. On Friday last I spoke in this house on the trade treaty and in opening my remarks I made some reference to those who were continually lecturing us to get on with the business of the people. The *Toronto Globe and Mail* carried a report of that speech with a large heading which read, "Lecturing by Ballots Irks Manion," and further down they quote me as follows:

Before he got well into his two-hour onslaught against the trade treaty the opposition leader declared his annoyance with the flood of ballots which has deluged parliament hill for the past week.

That statement is an absolute misrepresentation of the facts. I wish to state definitely and positively that I did not refer to those sending ballots, in any shape, manner or form. *Hansard* will bear me out in this. I was referring to certain editorials that had been written during the discussion on the Bren gun affair and to a few letters which some of us had received, the editorials and letters suggesting that we were not dealing with the business of the house. In view of the fact that I had not mentioned those who sent ballots, indeed did not have them in

mind in any shape or form, on Sunday morning at eleven o'clock I sent the following telegram to the office of the *Globe and Mail*:

Statement front page Saturday's *Globe and Mail* that I expressed resentment against sending here of ballots absolutely untrue. I did not mention or refer to ballots or their senders in my speech and they were not in my mind in the remotest manner in my remarks. Please make correction.

I checked up and I found that that telegram was telephoned to the *Globe and Mail* at 11.38 a.m. on Sunday, and was delivered at the office of the *Globe and Mail* at 3.30 p.m. on Sunday. I had hoped that the *Globe and Mail* would itself make the correction, but as it has not done so and as I have been advised that some of those who sent in ballots took this as an affront to them, I am therefore making this correction and trust that the *Globe and Mail* will carry it with the same prominence as it did the misinformation; for I have every respect for the sincerity of purpose of the senders of the ballots.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—CHANGE OF PERSONNEL

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister) moved:

That the name of Mr. Stirling be substituted for that of Mr. Casselman on the standing committee on public accounts.

That the name of Mr. Brown be substituted for that of Mr. Graydon on the standing committee on public accounts.

That the name of Mr. Green be substituted for that of Mr. Church on the standing committee on public accounts.

Motion agreed to.

#### CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

RESIGNATION OF JAMES Y. MURDOCH FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On the order for motions:

Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Transport): At the last sitting of the house the hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Manion) asked me a question with reference to the resignation