

shareholders in a company and our company did not receive this charter. I think that any ordinary company would demand that the figure be shown why we did not receive it, because if it had been received, then the T.C.A. would have received some money for this trip and would have received a profit. They would not do it without a profit. And T.C.A. was in the hole, and I think we should find out ways and means of building it up, and find out why they did not get that charter.

Mr. MUTCH: I think Mr. Fraser has presented more effectively than I could have done the best arguments for the decision being won for the committee and not for the president to make.

Mr. JAMES: There is only one answer we can get here today and that is the actual bid which T.C.A. put in. We still do not know how much the R.C.A.F. was paid for the trip and the whole thing could be settled so easily by placing a question on the order paper and when the answer is given all the information will be consolidated in the one answer.

Mr. HATFIELD: I would like to know how much the R.C.A.F. under-bid the T.C.A.

Mr. POULIOT: The thing we are interested in is an actual expenditure of which we either approve or disapprove; and the bid which has not been accepted is a different matter. I wonder if the charter would have covered the deficit of the T.C.A.

Mr. FRASER: Did not Mr. McGregor say before that he had no objection to giving the figures?

The CHAIRMAN: If I may interrupt, for a minute—

Mr. MCGREGOR: Yes, I did say it because I said we had quoted our standard charter rate, and that information could be obtained by anyone, including Mr. Drew, simply by asking for a quotation for a similar flight.

Mr. DREW: If that is so, then this is the place to give it.

The CHAIRMAN: I feel the time has arrived for the chairman to rule as to the admissibility of the question. I find myself in sharp disagreement with the expressed opinions of many of the members of this committee. I believe Mr. McGregor indicated that he quoted the standard rate, and I think I would only be doing my duty if I left the question with Mr. McGregor, and I so rule. If the committee wishes to appeal my ruling, they may do so.

Mr. POULIOT: May I ask Mr. McGregor what was the length and the duration of that trip around the world?

The CHAIRMAN: We are dealing with an express question, so let us have an answer to it first.

The chair rules that it is a proper question. It is entirely in the hands of Mr. McGregor. Do you care to answer the question now, Mr. McGregor?

Mr. MCGREGOR: I have no objection to answering, if I am being asked to answer it.

The CHAIRMAN: You are not being instructed to answer it, you are being given the opportunity to answer it.

Mr. MUTCH: If the committee does not challenge your ruling, Mr. Chairman, then the committee concurs in your ruling, and it becomes the request of the committee. But with deference I do not think you can go out on a limb all by yourself. You have simply pointed out the distinctions and you are leaving the question with the committee. The committee does not challenge your ruling at all and it must take the responsibility for it.

Mr. DREW: Well then, what was the amount of the tender, Mr. McGregor?

Mr. MCGREGOR: The figure was slightly more than \$60,000 as I remember it.

Mr. POULIOT: Now, Mr. McGregor, what would be the length and the duration of that trip?