

desire on the part of the Liberals for an election.

"I am quoted as having said that (an election) is what we wanted last year," said Mr. Turriff. "Now, what I actually did say was, 'That is what you wanted last year.' I consider it unfair for any member of the House to distort the words of other hon. gentlemen in his own paper."

Mr. Speaker Sevigny thought the point well taken.

This is an absolute fabrication. What was said by the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Turriff), as appears from the Hansard report, was this:

I am not attributing any blame whatever to the paper. The mistake has occurred through the Hansard reporter not catching exactly the right word; the word "we" was substituted for the word "you," which changes the whole meaning of the sentence. What I said was: "That is what you wanted last year." Instead of "you" they put in "we."

In this correction made in Hansard by the member for Assiniboia no reference was made to me, none whatever as you will see, Mr. Speaker, and there was no reference to distortion. If reports like those can be sent out about a member of this House, public life in Canada would become intolerable. This is no joke. I ask for the protection and the ruling of the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER: I may inform the hon. member and the House that my attention was called this morning to the article referred to, and I can only say that it is certainly unjust; I need not say more to the hon. member for Peterborough. If this report was sent to the paper in question by a member of the Press Gallery, I think it is his duty to apologise, and to do justice to the hon. member for Peterborough.

TRAIN SERVICE IN THE WEST.

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. J. D. REID (Minister of Customs): I wish to read, for the information of the House, a telegram that I have just received with reference to the delay in fuel deliveries in the West:

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 3.

Hon. J. D. Reid,
Acting Minister of Railways,
Dominion of Canada,
Ottawa, Ont.

From newspaper reports of proceedings Ottawa, some members would appear to be under impression delay in delivery coal to western towns and villages tributary our line due to lack of cars or motive power. This absolutely untrue. Deliveries fuel have been delayed due continuous snow storms and low temperature which has made it quite impossible do more than mortal men can do. With ample fighting facilities our disposal we are giving delivery fuel first consideration and yesterday distributed one hundred twenty-three cars. This

[Mr. Burnham.]

matter receiving our most serious consideration.

D. B. Hanna.

CONTROL OF WATER-POWERS.

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. GRAHAM: May I call the attention of the Government to an item which appeared in the press of Tuesday, which stated that an arrangement had been arrived at between the Dominion Government and the Government of Ontario by which the water-powers heretofore under the control of the federal authority were to be handed over to the Provincial Government. Is that report correct?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: There was some negotiation between counsel representing the Government of the province of Ontario and counsel representing the Dominion Government with regard to certain outstanding litigation touching the respective rights of Canada and of the province in water powers. No arrangement has been arrived at, so far as I am aware, up to the present time, but I think the negotiations are progressing rather favourably.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: Do I understand my right hon. friend to mean that the negotiations are progressing towards a transfer of the rights of Canada in water powers to the province of Ontario?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: No, progressing with regard to the questions involved in litigation which is outstanding in the courts, and which calls in question on the one hand, the rights of Canada in the water-powers, and on the other hand, the rights of the province of Ontario.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: It is a question which is in the courts?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: An action was brought in the courts—I think it was instituted by the Attorney General of Ontario, if I remember rightly—and the Deputy Minister of Justice was instructed to make a report upon a proposal which is confidential at present on the part of the province of Ontario, looking to some arrangement along lines that were not really in controversy. Negotiations have gone on, but no conclusion has been reached yet, so far as I am advised.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: Do I understand my right hon. friend to mean that in addition to the question which is involved and is in controversy in the courts, negotiations are progressing with regard to some other question?