

Inquiries of the Ministry

announced over the radio this morning, as well as in the press, that the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply had stated that the brief presented by the national film board to the royal commission on arts, letters and sciences was not government policy. Why is it not government policy when there are two cabinet ministers on the national film board? Did they have anything to do with the brief? If not, why not?

Hon. Robert H. Winters (Minister of Reconstruction and Supply): I have not had an opportunity of reading the reports in the press, and under the circumstances I do not think I should comment on them.

Mr. Fraser: It was definitely stated over the radio that the minister had made that statement.

Mr. Fleming: May I ask the minister whether he is still chairman of the national film board?

Mr. Winters: The answer is yes.

PARLIAMENT HILL

REFERENCE TO STATUE OF SIR JOHN
A. MACDONALD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Jean François Pouliot (Temiscouata): I should like to direct the attention of the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Fournier) to the statue of Sir John A. Macdonald, one of the fathers of confederation, which is situated between this building and the east block. The other day the hon. member for Broadview (Mr. Church) referred to a conversation that had taken place before the monument, and it gave me the idea of going to look at it. I notice that the pincenez which Sir John holds in his hand has become broken and is now a monocle. That is an historical error, and I hope it will be corrected as soon as possible.

Mr. T. L. Church (Broadview): Perhaps there should be a relocation of the monument to place it out in front beside Laurier.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

REFERENCE TO NOTICE OF MOTION FOR SATURDAY
SITTINGS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. L. Smith (Calgary West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister in connection with a notice in *Votes and Proceedings*. I think an innocent mistake has been made in preparing it, because it asks that the house sit on Saturday, November 26. I wonder if the error was in not providing that the house should meet on that occasion at Varsity stadium in Toronto, where we will all be?

[Mr. Fraser.]

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): I am sure a large number of hon. members would enjoy being at the stadium in Toronto instead of here, but I am afraid that their public duties must prevail over their desires.

Mr. Smith (Calgary West): Speaking only for myself, mine will not.

Mr. Speaker: If I may interject, may I say that my sympathies are with the hon. member for Calgary West.

Mr. Knowles: Perhaps the motion is out of order.

Mr. F. E. Lennard (Wentworth): As a past president of the Canadian Rugby Union may I say that the game last year between Calgary Stampeders and Ottawa did more to cement good feeling between the east and the west than anything this House of Commons has done in the last ten years. The game that will be played in Toronto on Saturday between Alouettes of Montreal and Calgary Stampeders will have a like effect. I think that if this house meets on Saturday it will be an insult to the sporting fraternity of Canada—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Lennard: —and I for one will not be here.

Mr. Pouliot: Mr. Mackenzie King said the same thing about the accomplishments of Barbara Ann Scott.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is not before the house.

Mr. Cruickshank: The west will win, anyway.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

INQUIRY AS TO DISTRIBUTION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Donald M. Fleming (Eglinton): I should like to ask the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Finance when the public accounts will be distributed. On Monday last, when this question was asked, the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Finance said he would look into it and would make a statement the following day. No statement has since been made.

Mr. Gleason Belzile (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance): The king's printer has not had time to print the number of copies that will be required, but we expect that they will be available in the near future, perhaps in seven or eight days.