

they do not know where they will get their next day's bread, and are unable to get a job because they are not members of a certain political party and cannot command the support and the recommendation of the president of an association.

Mr. ROGERS: That is not true; I will deal with it later.

Mr. BENNETT: What is not true?

Mr. ROGERS: Certainly it is not true to say, as my right hon. friend has implied, that one cannot obtain a job on the relief work done in that constituency except through being a Liberal.

Mr. BENNETT: Excepting he had the recommendation of the president of the Liberal association.

Mr. ROGERS: Or even that.

Mr. BENNETT: Well, then, I am going on; the minister has answered the question himself. He knows as well as I do that when he puts that provision in the contract it was the province which made the contract, not the dominion, and he had no control over it at all.

At six o'clock the committee took recess.

### After Recess

The committee resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. BENNETT: Mr. Chairman, there does not seem to be a quorum of members. The rule seems to be standing order No. 3, but section 48 of the British North America Act is the section that governs. That section reads:

The presence of at least twenty members of the House of Commons shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the house for the exercise of its powers; and for that purpose the Speaker shall be reckoned as a member.

Standing order No. 3 reads:

Whenever Mr. Speaker adjourns the house for want of a quorum, the time of the adjournment, and the names of the members then present, shall be inserted in the journal.

The CHAIRMAN: Order. Item No. 108 was under discussion. Now the objection will be in order.

Mr. BENNETT: Mr. Chairman, it is not a question of objection. Unless there are twenty members in the house, the house cannot transact business; if there are twenty, it can.

The CHAIRMAN: I will ask the assistant clerk to count the members.

And there being only sixteen members present, including the chairman, the chairman reported accordingly to the Speaker.

[Mr. Bennett.]

Mr. SPEAKER: I shall ask the clerk to count the house.

Mr. NEILL: Would it not be possible to adjourn the house for half an hour?

Mr. SPEAKER: No.

Mr. BENNETT: That is one of the things you cannot do.

And there being only seventeen members present, including Mr. Speaker, the names were taken down and the house adjourned, without question put, at 8.10 p.m.

## Friday, June 10, 1938

The house met at three o'clock.

### PETITION

Petition of A. A. McLeod and 8,219 others, praying that an embargo be placed upon the shipment of war materials to Japan.—Mr. MacNeil.

### NARCOTIC DRUGS

APPROVAL OF CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN DANGEROUS DRUGS, SIGNED AT GENEVA, JUNE 26, 1936

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING  
(Secretary of State for External Affairs)  
moved:

That it is expedient that parliament do approve of the convention of 1936 for the suppression of the illicit traffic in dangerous drugs (Geneva, June 26, 1936), signed on behalf of Canada by the plenipotentiary named therein, and that this house do approve of the same.

He said: Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned yesterday, the subject-matter of the convention was considered by the house at the time the Minister of Pensions and National Health (Mr. Power) introduced his bill with respect to opium and narcotic drugs. That was in February of this year. The bill was to implement any obligation on the part of Canada which might be incurred under the terms of the convention. Its main purpose is to make more severe the penalties which have existed in the past with respect to illicit trafficking in opium and other drugs.

The convention was drawn up by the international conference for the suppression of the illicit traffic in dangerous drugs which met in Geneva under the auspices of the League of Nations. The objectives of the conference were, first, to secure international cooperation in stiffening penalties for breaches of legislation implementing the earlier opium con-