

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: My honourable friend said a moment ago that what I had stated was unfounded and untrue. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully call that to your attention as being a statement which is out of order and one which should be withdrawn before I proceed.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Mr. Speaker, I request that that statement be withdrawn.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: I am quite sure the honourable member from Pictou (Hon. Mr. Tanner) will accept the word of the honourable member from Parkdale, and, if he made that statement, will withdraw it.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: The statement referred to by the honourable member from Parkdale, which the honourable member from Pictou described as unfounded and untrue, was a statement as to opinions and desires of members of this House.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Certainly.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: This is a statement of which they are just as good judges as he is.

Hon. Mr. TANNER: He had no right to make accusations against us.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: If anyone says I have a certain view, and I say that is untrue, he cannot make me withdraw my remark.

Hon. Mr. TANNER: I will not withdraw.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I would not for a moment say that my honourable friend was stubborn in declining to withdraw. But the fact remains, and I repeat it, there are many distinguished gentlemen in this Canada of ours who have had no other object before their mind's eye for months and years—

Hon. Mr. TANNER: That is not true either.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK:—than to carry on a campaign to discredit the Canadian National Railways.

Hon. B. F. SMITH: Name them. Who are they?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Their name is legion. We find them writing voluminously from time to time. Why specify any one particular person?

Hon. Mr. LYNCH-STAUTON: You are beyond your depth. Swim out.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Many of them seem to get a great deal of justification for

Hon. Mr. TANNER.

their action because of the fact, brought so forcibly before us yesterday, that the Canadian National Railway System is costing the people of Canada \$100,000,000 a year. My honourable friend has not admitted, but I am sure he would admit, that the Canadian National Railways would continue to cost us \$100,000,000 a year for many years to come if to-morrow we unloaded it entirely.

Hon. J. A. McDONALD (Shediac): By what alchemy of crooked understanding does the honourable gentleman prophesy that any company taking over the railway would continue to lose \$100,000,000 a year?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I did not say that.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD (Shediac): Did I misunderstand the honourable gentleman?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Yes. I said if the Canadian National Railway System were tomorrow turned out of the hands of the Canadian people, they would still have to put up about \$100,000,000 a year on account of the railway situation.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD (Shediac): I thought the honourable gentleman said if the Canadian National Railway System were handed over to any other company it would still lose \$100,000,000 a year. I accept his explanation.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: So it seems to me there are some things which my honourable friend (Hon. Mr. Beaubien) should explain further. I understood him to include in his sub-amendment a figure of \$1,334,000,000 odd.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: Will the honourable member from Parkdale allow me a moment? We all have great respect for and confidence in the present Government. We are simply asking it to follow a practice always followed by large corporations. Having made a change in the balance sheet, they draw their shareholders' attention to it in a footnote showing what the change amounts to. A corporation would be compelled by the Companies Act and by its board of directors to do that. Surely the Government will not object to it.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I accept the statement of the honourable gentleman from Alma. Now let me ask him this question: Is the Canadian National Railway System not a subsidiary corporation of the Canadian Government?

Hon. Mr. LYNCH-STAUTON: No; it is nothing of the kind.