

Mr. **POULIOT**: I have been dirtily attacked. Would I have no right of defence?

Mr. **SPEAKER**: I understood the hon. member to take exception to an article in regard to his own action in the house. But having done that, he is now reading his own explanation. I ask him to make it as brief as possible.

Mr. **POULIOT**: (Translation): God forbid that anybody should attack, in the house, the sacred character of the priest; should unfortunately the thing happen, I shall be the first to espouse his cause, as I have already proven it.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

Mr. **GORDON**: I desire to lay upon the table of the house orders in council passed pursuant to the relief legislation.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

##### CHANGES IN PERSONNEL OF SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES

Right Hon. **R. B. BENNETT** (Prime Minister) moved:

That the name of Mr. Young be substituted for that of Mr. Butcher on the select standing committee on railways, canals and telegraph lines, and that the name of Mr. Butcher be substituted for that of Mr. Young on the select standing committee on agriculture and colonization.

Motion agreed to.

#### CHIGNECTO CANAL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. **A. E. MacLEAN** (Prince): I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Railways and Canals (Mr. Manion). Last session I placed a question on the order paper with regard to the report of the commission investigating the possibilities of the Chignecto canal. I should like to ask the minister if this report has been received and whether it will be tabled during this session.

Hon. **R. J. MANION** (Minister of Railways and Canals): The report has not been received.

#### TRAWLER LICENCES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. **ALFRED DURANLEAU** (Acting Minister of Fisheries): On Friday last my hon. friend from Queens-Lunenbourg (Mr. Ernst) asked whether I was prepared to make an announcement of the government policy

with regard to the licensing of steam trawlers for the coming fiscal year, and my answer was that I hoped to be in a position to make a statement to-day. That statement was prepared, but at the last minute new facts came to the attention of the government with respect to existing contracts which the trawler companies must fill for the supply of fish during the lenten season, so I must postpone my statement until to-morrow.

#### JUDGE RUTHERFORD

##### BAN PLACED BY RADIO COMMISSION ON SPEECHES THROUGH CANADIAN STATIONS

Hon. **ALFRED DURANLEAU** (Minister of Marine): On Friday last the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Brown) asked a question with regard to the measure of responsibility the government must assume in connection with the ruling of the radio broadcasting commission concerning Judge Rutherford's speeches. I have received a statement from the radio commission in this connection which reads as follows:

Many complaints were received by the radio broadcasting commission regarding the abusive and mischievous character of the speeches of Judge Rutherford being broadcast in Canada, but the commission took no action until it had obtained a copy of advertising literature issued by Rutherford's organization in Canada, The Watch Tower, 40 Irwin Avenue, Toronto, containing quotations from these speeches. With this evidence before it the commission, on January 18th, instructed Canadian broadcasting stations that the Rutherford speeches must not be broadcast until the continuity of records of the same had been submitted to the commission for approval. The commission learned that the Rutherford broadcasts were in the form of gramophone records manufactured in the United States, and that time for their use on the air had been purchased from twenty-five Canadian stations by the organization representing Rutherford in Canada. As Rutherford lived in the United States and did not deliver his speeches in person in Canada he could not be made amenable to Canadian laws, and the only control that could be exercised in this country was in regard to the broadcasting of his gramophone records.

Anxious that it should be clear there was no intention of interfering with the legitimate exercise of free speech the commission requested the representative of the International Bible Students, the organization sponsoring Rutherford in Canada, to submit the records of the Rutherford speeches, together with the texts on which they were based. This request was not complied with, and the only response was the wide distribution of printed literature in Canada attacking the commission and religious institutions and clergy, in which the chairman of the commission was described as liar, thief, Judas and polecat, and therefore fit to associate only with the clergy.

In order not to interfere with the legitimate operations of the International Bible Students the commission authorized the broadcasting