

Trans-Canada Air Lines

cised by any superior court in Canada, for the enforcement of subpoenas to witnesses or punishment of disobedience thereof.

I cannot see any material difference.

Mr. BENNETT: There isn't—not the slightest.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall clause 21 carry?

Mr. BENNETT: No, but we will not waste further time about it—on division.

Section agreed to on division.

Section 22 agreed to.

On section 23—No witness excused from giving evidence on ground it may incriminate him.

Mr. THORSON: Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, you will call it one o'clock.

Mr. BENNETT: Is the hon. member going to speak on section 23?

Mr. THORSON: Yes.

Mr. BENNETT: Then I want to say something about it.

Section stands.

Progress reported.

At one o'clock the house took recess.

The house resumed at three o'clock.

TRANS-CANADA AIR LINES

ARRANGEMENT WITH CORPORATION RESPECTING
LINES AND SERVICES FOR TRANSPORT OF
PASSENGERS, GOODS AND MAILS

Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Transport) moved the third reading of Bill No. 74, to establish a corporation to be known as Trans-Canada Air Lines.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): I had hoped that possibly on consideration the government would provide that this enterprise should be owned entirely by the public, especially in view of the fact that the minister is providing that fifty-one per cent of it shall be owned by the Canadian National Railways. I suppose it is too late now to do more than reiterate that hope, but I would point out that notwithstanding the care that was taken last evening we did leave out one word. It was mentioned but it does not appear in the bill. I refer to section 6, "who is not a British subject continuously resident in Canada." The word "continuously" does not appear although it was mentioned last evening. Perhaps in another place it can be added.

Motion agreed to, and bill read the third time and passed.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

PROVISION TO CONSOLIDATE STORES DEPOTS AND
TO SIMPLIFY PURCHASING

Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Transport) moved the second reading of Bill No. 88, respecting Department of Transport stores.

Mr. BENNETT: The minister might explain the bill.

Mr. HOWE: As I said on the first reading, this is to simplify the bookkeeping and handling of stores in the Department of Transport. We believe that inevitably it will reduce the inventory of stores which are now carried on the books as an asset of the dominion. The difficulty to-day is that there are some ten separate appropriations in the department, and stores under each appropriation must be carried as separate stock. The only means by which stores can be moved from one appropriation to another is by process of sale, which involves extensive bookkeeping. The result is, as I said, that we have sixty store depots from coast to coast, as many as three, and in one instance four, depots in the same city, and in these depots there are five or six separate compartments. Goods must be purchased and placed in one compartment and used in that compartment under the appropriation and cannot quickly be transferred to any other compartment where the same goods are required.

Our annual purchases of stores are about \$3,000,000 and our stocks to-day are \$1,500,000, which of course is an absurd figure. I have gone into the matter in an effort to have the stocks reduced and it has been explained to me that it is impossible to reduce them without legislation of this sort so that they may be combined for the various services.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time, and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

Section 1 agreed to.

On section 2—Department of Transport stores account.

Mr. BENNETT: Will the minister give the particulars showing what stores are involved?

Mr. HOWE: In the lighthouse service there are twenty boats equipped with the usual provisions and supplies. The lighthouses themselves are handled under a separate appropriation. We have the dominion steamers and the lighthouse service, and there again we have stores. In connection with the canals