

establishment of the new Air Transport Committee. This has now been rectified and I believe the members of the association are satisfied that within a comparatively short time these anomalies will be ironed out. We shall undertake to do this because I believe there are legitimate grounds for some of the complaints which were made at the convention.

Mr. Thomas (Moncton): Will the minister be bringing down new legislation so as to make these regulations enforceable and, if so, when may it be expected?

Mr. Jamieson: The hon. member may recall that legislation was passed at the end of last session; the changes have already been made in the legislation to take care of the anomalies. However, it is now necessary to bring the provision into line with the old regulations of the former Air Transport Board.

GRAIN

RAPESEED—DENIAL TO FIRM OF RIGHT TO PURCHASE

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): My question is directed to the Minister without Portfolio, the hon. member for Saskatoon-Humboldt. It has to do with the matter to which I referred a few moments ago, namely, a direction from the Wheat Board to Joe Caplan, who operates a seed firm, denying him the right to purchase rapeseed although he has orders from abroad and his elevator does not come within the definition of an elevator under the law as it now stands and could not, therefore, be used for the storage of wheat or interfere with wheat storage elsewhere. I know the minister's own feelings on this subject; he is from Saskatchewan. What has the minister to say as to the reason for this most unconscionable order by the Wheat Board which is preventing thousands of farmers—

Mr. Speaker: Order. Perhaps the right hon. gentleman has asked his question now and the minister could reply.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): I think an accurate statement of the facts would in itself be a good part of the answer to this question. I am very sympathetic to the movement of this grain, as I am to the movement of all others. The truth of the matter is that the Wheat Board has in no way impeded the delivery on quota of rapeseed by farmers to Mr. Caplan. What it is resisting is the granting of a special off-quota privilege

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which would prejudice farmers who are not able to avail themselves of this privilege.

Mr. Diefenbaker: That was not the minister's view the other day. But if this is so, why are the crushing plants in Saskatoon, Lethbridge, Nipawin and Altona allowed to do so over the quota? Surely the minister intends to start looking after the interests of the western farmers.

Mr. Lang: That is indeed the intention not only of the minister but of this government.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

TRANSPORT

SUGGESTED CURTAILMENT OF RAILWAY PASSENGER SERVICE—CONSIDERATION OF RETURN OF GRANTS TO CPR

Mr. David Lewis (York South): I have a question for the Minister of Transport, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the Canadian Pacific Railway has expressed its intention to withdraw from all passenger services and thereby withdraw from carrying out the obligation which it undertook to the people of Canada in return for large grants of land and money to set up the corporation, would the minister and the government consider demanding that the railway system give back to the people of Canada the land and the money grants made to them?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to consider that proposal.

Mr. Lewis: Would the minister tell the House now whether he is prepared to consider it favourably or whether he thinks that was merely a funny answer?

Mr. Speaker: Order.

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION BY COUNSEL AT HEARINGS

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): I wonder whether I might ask the following question, Mr. Speaker. It was touched upon yesterday but the minister was not in the House. Since the Canadian Transport Commission is a quasi-judicial body which has responsibility for transport generally, and since the railway will be represented when the latest proposals by Canadian Pacific are being considered by that body, will the minister consider having the government of