

*Transportation*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Churchill:** I thought you would take pity on me, Mr. Speaker, in view of the many interruptions.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I must inform the hon. gentleman that his allotted time has expired.

**Mr. Churchill:** I am sure that I could conclude my remarks by nine thirty, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Does the house give its unanimous consent to allow the hon. member to continue?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I think the hon. gentleman should have another round.

**Mr. Churchill:** Let me conclude my remarks then with this sentence. I hope that those who follow me will ask the Minister of Transport to indicate the hidden features of this bill. Perhaps the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. MacEachen) and the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (Mr. Marchand) will come into the house and advise us about the hidden features of this bill. What must we take on trust, and what is being concealed from us? What do we not understand about this bill that is clear to everyone else? Perhaps my colleagues will pursue that line of thought.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Does the hon. gentleman seriously expect anyone to tell him what he does not understand?

**Mr. Churchill:** There is so very little I do not understand it would be a waste of your time to point it out.

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris):** Mr. Speaker, I am sure that most of the members of this house wanted to take part in the debate last week in respect of the emergency legislation dealing with the railway strike. We refrained from doing so because of our desire to expedite matters pertaining to the critical situation which faced Canada. Like my colleague, that hon. member from the keystone province of Manitoba, I am grateful to the minister for making it possible to extend our normal hours of sitting tonight so that as many members as possible can speak. I think it is particularly important for members from the province of Manitoba to speak on this bill, because that province, more than any other, is very deeply concerned with and involved in national transportation problems.

As I understand the situation the government has linked this bill with the one highlighted by the discussion last week, in an attempt to provide a complete approach to the problem of rail transportation. It has been suggested that the legislation now before us has been designed to rationalize not only rail transportation policy, but transportation policy generally in this country, in an attempt to avoid the periodic crises which have rocked the nation and this house. Perhaps these crises have occurred in part as a result of the failure of parliament to deal adequately with the revolutionary changes which have taken place in the Canadian economy over the past few decades.

It is unfortunate that we must debate this matter in an atmosphere of crisis. I shall not be discouraged in any way during my participation in this debate tonight by the government's attempt to carry over the atmosphere of crisis that existed last week. Having endeavoured to interpret this bill, having attended the special seminar that was set up to enlighten members of the house, and having listened to the comments of those individuals who are most knowledgeable about railway matters in this country, it is my opinion that this bill in no way resolves the problem that precipitated the crisis which necessitated the recalling of parliament for this special emergency session.

● (9:30 p.m.)

The authority, of course, for that statement, as has been quoted several times during the debate, is the president of the C.P.R., Mr. Sinclair, who made the statement that the legislation contemplated makes no advances and gives the railways nothing that does not already exist in the present legislation under which railways operate in this country.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** So far as 1966 is concerned.

**Mr. Dinsdale:** As far as 1966 is concerned—and I think we are dealing with the year 1966. If it does not meet the problem in 1966, with the rapid processes of social and economic change in the country I would conclude it would be even more out of touch with reality in the ensuing years.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether I might ask the hon. member a question?

**Mr. Dinsdale:** Certainly.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** The hon. member does recognize that the increase in wages for 1966