

*Transportation*

January 10 that he did make an agreement with the railroads. If the minister is shaking his head then I had better read from *Hansard*:

The company did say that if they were allowed the kind of scope the government had said they were going to propose to parliament to enable the company to increase railway revenues, then the company would be glad to give up this immunity.

The minister was referring to this immunity from municipal taxes, and in that quotation which I have given, was pointing out that an agreement was made. There is no question of doubt in my mind but that the minister directed the president of the C.P.R. to put in "January 1, 1967" in his letter so that he, the minister, could have a club to hold over the heads of parliamentarians.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Chairman, I rise on a question of privilege.

**Mr. Horner (Acadia):** There is no question in my mind about that. I don't know what the minister is standing up for.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** The hon. member has accused me of mis—

**Mr. Starr:** On a point of order—

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Chairman, I have risen on a question of privilege.

**Mr. Starr:** Then I rise on a question of privilege. I do not know how the minister—

**The Chairman:** Order, please. It is very difficult for the Chair to hear more than one member at the same time. The Minister of Transport, on a question of privilege.

**Mr. Starr:** On a question of privilege, Mr. Chairman—

**The Chairman:** The Minister of Transport is already on a question of privilege.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Chairman, I rise on a question of privilege because the hon. gentleman was questioning my word. I gave my word to the house, not once but on several occasions, that I had no agreement whatsoever with the Canadian Pacific Railway about this bill, and the words that the hon. gentleman has just quoted—

**Mr. Horner (Acadia):** I will read them again.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Read them again when I have finished. The words the hon. gentleman

has just read are a paraphrase of the letter written by the president of the C.P.R. The letter was not written by me; it was written by the president of the C.P.R. It was a public document, and surely I am as much entitled to refer to that document as any other member of the house, without being accused of deceiving or misleading the house. The C.P.R. did this of their own volition. I welcomed it, and I hope that if this legislation is passed within a reasonable time—and I said this before—they will start paying those taxes this year.

**Mr. Churchill:** What is the question of privilege?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** There was no agreement of any kind.

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Surely, sir, I am entitled to defend my veracity, and when I say to hon. members that there was no agreement of any kind I am sure the hon. gentleman who has been speaking believes me.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Horner (Acadia):** Mr. Chairman, this is a very interesting discussion—

**The Chairman:** Order please. I consider the acts of the committee now to be an interruption of the present speaker, the hon. member for Acadia.

**Mr. Horner (Acadia):** Mr. Chairman, I have never been so flattered that so many members over there, so many trained seals, would think me so devastating that they would drown me out by pounding on their desks. I never thought my words would strike so deadly at their hearts that they would be afraid even to allow me the privilege of speaking. You, Mr. Chairman, and the minister can interpret this particular paragraph any way you like, and we on this side will interpret it in the way it reads best to us. I am going to read it out again.

I am not quoting from the letter written by the president of the C.P.R. which was tabled on September 8. I am quoting from a speech which the minister made in the house on January 10, when he was dealing with the question of municipal taxes. Since the minister said I was paraphrasing I shall start the