

Inquiries of the Ministry

purpose of proving their importance in carrying traffic? The second part of my question is whether the Acting Prime Minister can assure the House that the government will not permit the people of this area to be inconvenienced by the disruption that this extraordinary and senseless experiment would cause?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Acting Prime Minister): The statement has caused concern. I am very doubtful that the Chairman of the commission has any such authority under the National Capital Act passed by this Parliament.

PRIME MINISTER'S SUMMER RESIDENCE

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Is the Acting Prime Minister also of the opinion that the Chairman of the National Capital Commission has no authority to declare that the Prime Minister's summer residence and other amenities of the office of the Prime Minister shall be eliminated at the discretion of the Chairman?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Acting Prime Minister): I do not want to be put in the position of giving a legal opinion on the National Capital Commission legislation, but it is quite clear in the Act that the function of that commission is to advise the government on the planning of the national capital region. The responsibility for decision is that of the government and not of the commission. The commission has certain ancillary powers to carry out certain works supplementary to the main objective.

REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF CHAIRMAN FROM OFFICE

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): I have a supplementary question for the Acting Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. In view of the representations with respect to the Chairman of the National Capital Commission, who has been a proven failure in past efforts on behalf of the government, and the fact that Members of Parliament, municipal officials and others have made strong complaints, including the very hard slap across the knuckles he received from the Acting Prime Minister of yesterday, will the government not take action and dismiss this man immediately from his part-time job which he maintains requires a great deal of effort to carry through?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, that question is much too difficult. It will be seen that in its rather lengthy preamble there are a great many alle-

[Mr. Blair.]

gations that are quite unfair to a public servant.

Mr. Woolliams: Are you going to fire him or are you not?

Mr. McIlraith: As I see it, it is not agreeable to Parliament to have a public servant described in that way in a preamble to a question and attempt to obtain an answer to a question put in that form.

Mr. Woolliams: Why don't you get more verbose?

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege based on the fact that the Acting Prime Minister today has accused me of making statements about a public servant which, oddly enough, I can support by the statement of the Acting Prime Minister of yesterday. I call his attention to page 6967 of *Hansard* where the Acting Prime Minister—the Secretary of State for External Affairs—made this statement:

They said the report of the remarks made by Mr. Fullerton completely misrepresented his position.

How can the Acting Prime Minister today accuse me of making a statement about a public servant when the Acting Prime Minister of yesterday made the same statement?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Later:]

ESTABLISHMENT OF HOUSE COMMITTEE TO DEAL WITH PLANS

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, I have a related question for the Acting Prime Minister in relation to the national capital. Having in mind the continual debates between the city of Ottawa and the National Capital Commission over authority and plans, would the Acting Prime Minister encourage the government to give consideration to setting up a committee of the House to deal with national capital plans?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I had understood that some matters of this kind were presently before one of the standing committees, but I will certainly take the suggestion of the hon. member under consideration.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

NON-PAYMENT OF WAGES TO HUSTLER PRODUCTS WORKERS—RECALLING OF BRETON VERSATREK EMPLOYEES

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I did have a supplement-