

## EVIDENCE

TUESDAY, December 1, 1964.

(Text)

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have a quorum.

I am very hopeful that we can make some progress today with the bill before us. I would remind the committee that this bill has to do with the incorporation of a company to administer a terminal in Ottawa. Wherever the terminal may be located eventually, the terms of the incorporation apply.

I hope that after what I would term the long discussion that we have already had on the proposed site—and some will call it the actual site—of the terminal in Ottawa we will not extend that discussion at too great a length but rather proceed to the articles of the bill, which do not deal with the location but, as I said before, with the administration of the terminal wherever it might be located. However, I am in the hands of the committee.

I know that before we proceed with the sections some members of the committee will have some questions to ask of the officers of the railway companies who were before us last Thursday, so I will call upon Mr. Macdougall and Mr. Spence to sit here.

The meeting is open to questions.

For the information of the committee, we are still on clause 1.

Mr. BARNETT: Mr. Chairman, while I appreciate what you say about the technical situation as far as the bill is concerned, I would agree with you that the principle of the incorporation of the Terminal Railway Company is really not in question. As far as I personally am concerned, I think it is quite evident from some of the questioning that took place in our earlier session that the main point of interest, at least as far as some of the members of the committee are concerned, is the question of location of a new station.

I for one would like to take advantage of the opportunity of having heard from General Clark of the National Capital Commission and to take advantage of the fact that we have representatives of the railway companies here because I think their point of view on the matters involved should be important to the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Will you go ahead, Mr. Barnett.

Mr. BARNETT: I would like, quite frankly, to know something of the viewpoint of the railway companies on the proposed change which involves moving the railway station from what some of us think is a very convenient and central location for—according to figures that I have digested from the Senate committee evidence—a very large proportion of the travellers coming into Ottawa by rail.

I have not the quotation before me, but certainly when this bill was up for second reading in the house I gained the impression from the Minister of Transport that the railway companies themselves were not originally very enthusiastic about the idea of having the terminal diverted from a central location. In fact, if I remember correctly, he used the term that it took a good deal of arm twisting of the railway companies to get them to agree to the arrangements which are outlined in the schedule to the bill.

My primary interest is to find out what the railway companies feel about the removal of the station from the point of view of their passenger business