That is why, Mr. Speaker, with your indulgence, I request that steps be taken to rectify the situation.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I hesitate to interrupt the hon. member but his time has expired.

Mr. J. A. Byrne (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Choquette) that if I am superior to the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Herridge), it is not by way of seniority.

Mr. Herridge: Are you suggesting it is on account of brains?

Mr. Byrne: The hon. member for Lotbinière has brought a very important question before the house and the Minister of Transport, and it appears at least to me that a constituency with such a distinguished member deserves something more than whistle stop communities. Some hon. member said to me, why does the hon. member for Lotbinière not go home. Another suggested that he did not think the hon. member had a home but lived in a bedroom on a Canadian National Railways train.

• (10:10 p.m.)

This matter has been brought to the attention of Canadian National Railways by the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill). I am sure the hon. member will understand that it is a matter for determination by the railway company itself, which after all has the responsibility for administering the railway and for the efficient operation of that undertaking. I am sure, also that the words uttered here this evening will be brought to the attention of the Canadian National Railways officials, and undoubtedly some action will be considered.

TELEVISION—NAPANEE, ONT.—REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF CABLE FACILITIES

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Prince Edward-Lennox): Mr. Speaker, I bring a matter before the house this evening as a result of a question that I asked the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill), on Tuesday, June 20, regarding a request for approval of cable television facilites in the town of Napanee. My question appears at page 1713 of *Hansard*. It arises as a result of the application of Mr. Reginald C. Dawson of Napanee who made application to the Department of Transport on February 23 last for authority to establish and operate a commercial T.V. receiving service at Napanee, Ontario. According to a letter dated May 2 written to Mr. Dawson, his application has been rejected. I quote a letter received by Mr. Dawson from Mr. W. A. Caton, controller, radio regulations division of the Department of Transport. This letter, Mr. Speaker, exemplifies nothing but a complete bureaucratic run-around that has been given to my constituent and townsman. The letter reads:

> Your application dated February 23, 1967 for authority to establish and operate a land station performing a commercial broadcasting receiving service at Napanee, Ontario, has been considered in accordance with the announcement made by the Minister of Transport in the House of Commons on July 22, 1964.
>
> The Board of Broadcast Governors believes that the establishment and operation of a C.A.T.V. system at Napanee, Ontario, such as you propose, would inhibit the provision of alternative television service to the area.
>
> Policy problems relating to C.A.T.V. are receiving the attention of the government and it is expected that parliament will have an opportunity to consider this matter in due course possibly on the basis of amending legislation. In the circumstances, the minister does not propose to approve your application at the present time. This decision on your application at this time is without prejudice to your right to re-apply once this matter has been dealt with by parliament.
>
> Arrangements are being made to refund the deposit in the amount of $25 which was submitted in support of this application.
>
> Yours truly,
> W. A. Caton,
> Controller,
> Radio Regulations Division.

Mr. Speaker, it is readily apparent that this is an example of bureaucracy at its very worst. What inhibitions are they referring to in that letter? To what alternative television service are they referring? The town of Napanee has about 5,000 people and consists of approximately 2,000 homes. One C.A.T.V. system at Napanee could serve the municipality, and any enterprise that goes to the trouble of obtaining a franchise to instal cable along the streets would no doubt obtain most of the business from the householders who could be served.

Mr. Caton's letter also refers to an announcement made in the house by the Minister of Transport on July 22, 1964. Mr. Caton's rejection of this application simply hides behind the announcement made by the minister long ago, and uses it as a shallow and ill-founded excuse for not granting the application. I am sure the minister does not agree with this, but when we look back to what the minister said on July 22, 1964, we find that his announcement does not apply to this application at all. At that time the minister announced that they simply wanted to