

Inquiries of the Ministry

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): As my colleague the Minister of Labour is temporarily out of the house, may I say that it is our intention to deal with this report as soon as possible.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**PROTESTS RESPECTING CLOSING OF STATIONS IN WEST**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. C. S. Smallwood (Battle River-Camrose): I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Last Friday I referred to the master agency plan which was being forced upon the residents of the Edmonton area by the Canadian National Railways, and I drew the attention of the minister to the fact that the C.N.R. has closed stations on main lines without obtaining the permission of the board of transport commissioners. I now ask the minister if he has looked into this situation.

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport): Yes, I would be glad to look into this.

Mr. Smallwood: I asked if the minister had looked into it.

Mr. McIlraith: I am sorry; I did not hear the hon. member clearly. No, I have not looked into it.

Mr. Smallwood: Then I want to ask a supplementary question. Because of the inconvenience that the closing of these stations is causing the residents of these areas, and in view of the fact that the C.N.R. has not obtained the permission of the board of transport commissioners, will the minister do this immediately and see that these stations are reopened?

Mr. McIlraith: Yes, I will have it looked into tomorrow.

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS**KNOWLEDGE BY PRIME MINISTER OF MOTION REPLACING MEMBERS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister, and it relates to the motion this afternoon replacing two Liberal members on the committee on privileges and elections. Was this motion made with his knowledge and consent?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): This motion was made in the usual way, Mr. Speaker, and the question gives me the opportunity of denying the statement made by the Leader of the Opposition that there was any intervention of the government in any

[Mr. Langlois.]

way, shape or form in the action taken by the Liberal members on this committee.

Mr. Aiken: May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. To the knowledge of the Prime Minister was there anything which brought about the replacement of the two members on the committee?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That question is definitely out of order.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO HOUSING ACT**

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. L. P. Antoine Belanger (Charlevoix): I should like to direct my question to the Minister of National Revenue in whose name resolution No. 14 appears. Does the minister intend to introduce his legislation before the Christmas recess?

[Text]

Hon. J. R. Garland (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I regret that I did not hear the question.

[Translation]

Mr. Belanger: I would like to know whether the Minister of National Revenue intends to introduce resolution No. 14 before the Christmas recess?

[Text]

Mr. Garland: I can only refer the hon. gentleman to what the Prime Minister said in regard to this matter in the light of the over-all progress.

ADMIRALTY ACT**AMENDMENTS RESPECTING SALARIES OF JUDGE AND REGISTRAR**

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Minister of Justice) moved the third reading of Bill No. C-108, to amend the Admiralty Act.

Mr. D. S. Macdonald (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I should like to supplement the answer I gave the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka in committee on the bill yesterday. The answer I gave may be found at page 4985 of English *Hansard*. I pointed out to the hon. member that the immediate purpose of the amendment was to provide for the situation in the province of Ontario. As I pointed out earlier, in Ontario we have the only surrogate judge under the Admiralty Act, and it was the situation in the province of Ontario that provided the immediate stimulation for this amendment.