

[Translation]

LABOUR RELATIONS

C.N.T.U.—INQUIRY RESPECTING REPORT OF MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Following the report handed to the cabinet concerning grievances raised by the C.N.T.U. ten months ago with regard to the Canada Labour Relations Board, is the right hon. Prime Minister now in a position to make the statement he promised in the house last December 21, as recorded on page 11460 of *Hansard*. I quote:

I sincerely hope when we reassemble I will be able to make a more definitive statement.

[English]

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this matter was heard by the Canada Labour Relations Board on Monday. The decision by the chairman of that board has been reserved, and I do not think it would be proper for me to make any statement while the matter is still under consideration by that board.

CANADIAN FLAG

SUGGESTED PUBLIC HOLIDAY TO HONOUR ADOPTION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David MacDonald (Prince): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister and relates to his remarks to the house during the question period on Monday regarding the possibility of special commemoration of the new flag by a new public holiday. Is the Prime Minister giving consideration to the adoption of Gordon Sinclair's suggestion that February 15 be named as a new public holiday?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is one of the matters I have on the agenda for discussion with the Secretary of State as soon as she returns.

INQUIRY FOR RETURN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to add to the agenda for that discussion, but I should like to direct a question to the Postmaster General. Now that he and his staff have successfully delivered all the Christmas and New Year's mail, would it be possible for them to arrange to

Transportation

deliver the subject matter of notice of motion for production of papers No. 182, which was passed by this house on November 16 of last year?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Postmaster General): I will look into that, Mr. Speaker.

TRANSPORTATION

PROVISION FOR DEFINITION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL POLICY

The house resumed, from Tuesday, January 10, consideration in committee of Bill No. C-231, to define and implement a national transportation policy for Canada, to amend the Railway Act and other acts in consequence thereof and to enact other consequential provisions—Mr. Pickersgill—Mr. Batten in the chair.

The Chairman: Order, please. When the committee rose on Tuesday, January 10, 1967, clause 19 of the bill was about to be discussed, clauses 1, 16, 17 and 18 having been stood.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Chairman, I understand that clause 17 was stood so I could give some consideration to various points which had been raised. I have now had an opportunity to give that consideration and to consult with my officials. If we could revert to clause 17 I would be very happy to communicate to the committee what I have learned.

The Chairman: Does the committee agree now to revert to clause 17?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

On clause 17—Committees.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I should deal first with the point raised by the member for Edmonton-Strathcona. In doing so I must confess to the committee that I was perhaps not as familiar as I really should have been—though I am not learned in the law and have never practiced before the Board of Transport Commissioners—with the details of the procedure before that board.

It is within the powers of the board as it now exists, and will therefore be within the powers of the new commission, to review and even to rehear any case before or after it renders a decision. I understand it is also within the powers of the governor in council on appeal to ask to have a rehearing or a review. Therefore the very laudable object the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona had in mind is met by the law as it exists. Perhaps I should have known that, but the