

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

not be possible for the Canadian National Railways to lease this unused spur line property, which extends west of the Canada Packers plant to the Jane street area, so that the people in the Gaffney subdivision could use the abandoned spur line property for parking purposes. It is approximately a 66-foot right of way and no train has run over it in the past five years. Grass is growing between the ties and between the rails. The people living right beside the tracks are being ticketed every night by the metropolitan Toronto police force for leaving their cars on a public highway.

A slight move on the part of the Canadian National Railways in offering to lease about three quarters of a mile of the right of way to the parking authority of the township of York would indicate to the federal taxpayers in my riding that the Canadian National Railways and the federal government are not miles removed from them, but understand the situation with which they are faced. I would earnestly ask the Minister of Transport to urge the Canadian National Railways to consider leasing this abandoned spur line west of the Canada Packers plant to the parking authority of the township of York.

Mr. Jean-Charles Cantin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the minister has asked me to say that he is sure the Canadian National Railways would be pleased to receive a direct approach in this regard from the parking authority of the township of York.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—MINISTERS
SUBPOENAED TO APPEAR IN QUEBEC
SUPERIOR COURT ACTION

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I do not see either the President of the Privy Council (Mr. McIlraith) or the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill) in the house tonight, and in view of the fact that the matter I wish to raise involves the two ministers, personally, I do not intend to discuss it this evening. I only regret that the two ministers have seen fit to absent themselves from the house at a time when I wish—

An hon. Member: Order.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I heard an hon. member say "order", from the opposite side of the house. There is nothing disorderly about my remarks. I have expressed regret that the two ministers concerned have not seen fit to be in the house tonight to answer the questions I put to them today, which

they dodged so evasively. That is not an unusual attitude on the part of ministers in respect of questions asked by hon. members on this side of the house.

The questions I asked concern, not proceedings which are before the court but subpoenas, which are more than mere allegations, as the Chair suggested this afternoon, and which have been served on the three ministers concerned.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but I gathered from what he said a moment ago that he did not propose to take up his seven minutes. I am wondering now whether, under these circumstances, it would not be better if the hon. member were given the opportunity to pose his questions again or to have the matters listed again for an adjournment proceeding. I hold no brief at this time for the ministers, but obviously we adjourned earlier than usual and perhaps that is an explanation for their absence. Perhaps I am out of order in advancing an explanation in respect of why they are not here, but my suggestion to the hon. member is that we simply adjourn the matter, in view of the fact they are not here to reply, unless there is someone here who is prepared to reply.

Mr. J. B. Stewart (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): On the point of order raised by Your Honour, I may say this matter was put down as a subject to be considered on the motion for adjournment this evening, and I should think, that having been done, the hon. member should proceed in the normal way.

Mr. Nielsen: I accept your suggestion, Mr. Speaker. I received a note from the President of the Privy Council this afternoon informing me that he was not going to be in the house after nine o'clock. I fully intend to raise the matter again, which I understand is within the rules, tomorrow on the orders of the day. Since the two ministers concerned are not here to answer now, I do not intend to proceed.

Mr. Stewart: The government is prepared to proceed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is nothing to prevent the hon. member from raising the matter again another day, if that is what he wishes to do.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10 p.m.