

*(Translation)*

Mr. BEAULÉ: I would like you to see the employees' point of view and not only that of the union leaders. You would get the employees complaints in that case, and not just the opinions of the union leaders.

*(Text)*

Mr. MACDOUGALL: Our interest, of course, is the employees, but our practice has been for many, many years to deal with the employees and their interests through their authorized representatives who are elected by them to come and bargain on their behalf with us.

We deal with them and we have found that, in the main, it has worked—and very well, I think—for both sides.

Mr. MACKASEY: Earlier, Mr. Chairman, the representatives of Canadian National Railways were discussing or answering some of Mr. Regan's very excellent questions. They were asked about concentration of population. I think you hesitated at that point and Mr. Regan obligingly swung to the story of the Queensway.

Is the new location actually the centre of concentration of population at the present time?

Mr. MACDOUGALL: Well, I think the explanation that I gave earlier to Mr. Barnett was on that point. The studies made in 1960 indicated that of the people coming in on our trains to the centre of the city, approximately 28 per cent were walking to their destinations.

So, presumably, those people were coming to the centre of their area of interest. The bulk of those people were coming to the Department of Public Works. Since 1960 that Department has moved out of this area as has the Post Office, the C.B.C. and the Department of Health and Welfare. Agriculture is also preparing to move.

So looking at that whole picture, we feel that far fewer than 28 per cent of our rail passengers who are still coming into Union station are walking.

Mr. MACKASEY: How much closer will this new station be to the Department of Public Works, for instance?

Mr. MACDOUGALL: Well, others would know that better than I. It is considerably closer.

Mr. MACKASEY: You talk about time and accommodation. Are you talking about time in the sense that it is easier to get to and fro on the new roads?

Mr. MACDOUGALL: Yes.

Mr. MACKASEY: Will new roads not improve it?

Mr. MACDOUGALL: It has been checked out by tests that people moving to and from the Queensway may proceed more quickly from given points in the area of the city of Ottawa than they can now by the present routes to the Union station.

Mr. MACKASEY: Are you hoping that people will go to the station in their own automobiles and leave them there while they take the train, and until they come back again?

Mr. MACDOUGALL: This happens in other areas if facilities are there, and it is convenient for people to do so, yes.

Mr. MACKASEY: Does this not also happen in the case of the air lines?

Mr. MACDOUGALL: Yes, this happens in the case of the railways and the air lines as well.

Mr. MACKASEY: Is it not a fact that the railway is more convenient in most instances, because railways usually run into the heart of the city, and that this