

take this—perhaps I am to blame that this was not down three or four days earlier.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** Whatever you say will be held in evidence against you!

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** But the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) is not to blame.

I heard in the corridors of the House of Commons that there was going to be a long debate on unionism in connection with this bill and I said "We will never get the bill by tomorrow." However, about half-past three the next afternoon the leader of my party came to me and said, "Your bill will be over here in half an hour", and I replied, "I'm not ready to go on." I admit I was not ready, but I had all this detail in mind. That is why I had to wait until tonight to move second reading and explain the bill. In the meantime we have promised the C.N.R. officials that if it is at all possible the bill will be assented to tomorrow afternoon. That is why we want the bill to be given second reading tonight.

**Hon. W. Ress Macdonald:** Honourable senators,—

**Hon. R. B. Horner:** Honourable senators, perhaps I can go ahead of my honourable friend—

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** I always give way to the honourable gentleman from Blaine Lake (Hon. Mr. Horner).

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** Thank you. Honourable senators, perhaps the selection of the man to introduce this bill was an unfortunate one, for I understand he has received special favours as a guest of the Chateau Laurier. He mentioned these seconds in command and how capable they are. I would like to know from him if he does not think they should be placed at the head of the railroad. On an earlier occasion I attempted to introduce a bill in this house and the honourable senior senator from Winnipeg (Hon. Mr. Haig) was not very kind to me, so I don't feel under any obligation to be particularly kind to him. I repeat, his selection was an unfortunate one, for I happen to know he receives special favours from the Canadian National Railways as a guest of the Chateau Laurier Hotel.

**Hon. Mr. Euler:** Who is that?

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Tell them about it.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** This legislation affects me in the freight rates I pay, and I want to know if he does not think these very capable men from Winnipeg, who are seconds in command, should be placed at the head of the railway system.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Let me explain. The "favours" I received at the Chateau Laurier amounted to this. When Prime Minister Diefenbaker held a reception in the Chateau Laurier for the Queen of Canada the manager of the hotel found me at the end of a line of 600 guests who were waiting to be presented to Her Majesty, and he took me through a back room and placed me fourth in the line. The result was that I was the fourth member of either house of Parliament to be presented. That was the favour. I certainly could not have stood up while 600 people had been presented ahead of me. It did not mean anything in a monetary sense. I have been living in the Chateau Laurier Hotel for a long time, 23 years, and I have always paid the regular rates and I am still paying them.

**Hon. Mr. Euler:** That is nothing.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** Fortunately, I have been able to pay them. I take some of my meals in the Chateau Laurier, but I think they are too expensive, so I take most of my meals in the Parliamentary Restaurant. At any rate, that is not what I was talking about. It may be that Mr. Gordon is not a clever railroad man, but he is certainly known to the public as a good businessman. He was employed as one who gave us great service during the war. I know whereof I speak, and no matter what you say about the other young men I know they are A-1. That is the only reason I wanted to speak on their behalf, just the same as I would speak for the sons of the honourable senator from Blaine Lake (Hon. Mr. Horner) if they were here. My honourable friend has two fine young men in the House of Commons.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** Never mind about that.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** But I don't think he would suggest that he should get out of here to let them take his place.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** That is not the argument.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** They are very able young men; of course I am not suggesting the honourable senator is not an able man.

**Hon. Mr. Euler:** Does my friend from Winnipeg (Hon. Mr. Haig) suggest that these two exceptionally able young men are being held back by their senior?

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** The point is this. How can any young man hope to become president of a great railroad if he cannot show prosperity in his own company because of the debt load and other difficulties the railroad faces? I want to get this out of the way so that these men will have an even break with their counterparts in other companies.