

not apply. It is 'with their baggage and equipment' coupled together, so it seems to me that excludes it entirely from consideration. It comes to this, that members of the Senate and House of Commons are to be supplied with free transportation. That is the full complement of it.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—If that be the interpretation, a member would have to pay for his trunk, because it would be his baggage. His baggage would be weighed as in Europe, and he would have to pay for it. If the hon. gentleman's interpretation is correct, he would get a free pass, and have to pay for his trunk. They could charge what they liked for the trunk, which would be all right.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN—There is an amendment which should be made. You should put the word 'passenger' before 'trains.' If a gentleman who is a physician, and a senator too, wishes to go in a hurry, he might insist on going on a freight train. Railway companies dislike exceedingly any such practice as that, and one would have to get special permission. I think 'passenger' ought to be put before 'train.' I have had some experience in that way. It is very difficult to get a superintendent or manager of a road to give one passage on a freight train.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN (de Lanaudière)—I do not know that it is understood that this clause, giving free transportation, is going to pass. If that clause is going to be adopted, I would provide for such a contingency as has been raised by the hon. member for Kingston, but I am not sure that the clause will be adopted.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—When we adopt it we cannot amend it.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN (de Lanaudière)—I am not prepared to say that I am in favour of this parliament declaring that members of both Houses shall be carried free over railways belonging to other people, but if this clause is to be adopted, then I would move that the company shall, on presentation of a card of identification issued by the secretary of the board on the first day of January of each year, furnish free transportation on its trains for members of the Senate and House of Commons. In that

way we would get the right to travel in the trains and over the various lines by authority issued by the secretary, or by the board itself. I may say that in other countries where members of parliament are carried free—in France for instance—

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Are they not government railways?

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—Not all, but in France, and I am told also in some other European countries, members of parliament are carried by all these railways free, but on presentation of a card of identification.

Hon. Mr. POIRIER—They have a sort of medal.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—If we are going to make it the law that railways shall carry members of parliament free, it is going a little too far to ask the railways also to have these cards printed and issued to members. The least we can do, since we are taking the power in our hands, is that we shall go to the expense of providing the card of identification. It would remove a great deal of the inconvenience, because one single card would carry the members of this House over any railway in Canada. I have suggested this amendment in case the clause carried, but as far as my idea of right goes, I do not think it is just to declare that outsiders shall do work for this parliament and get no remuneration. I thought a good deal of the suggestion of the hon. gentleman from de Salaberry, that the government should compensate the railway companies for the transportation. That is beyond the jurisdiction of this House, but it could be done in this way: the secretary of the board on the first of January, each year—that is the time passes are issued by all companies—would provide a card of identification, so that when any member of parliament would board a train he would be immediately identified on the presentation of this card. On the other hand, this card would be an official recognition by the government of this country that the holder of the card is entitled to free transportation.

Hon. Mr. POWER—Does not the hon. gentleman think that this card of identification or certificate, would come more properly from the clerks of the respective Houses?