

Pacific Railway Company as it is in the Canadian National Railways. I am informed by the officers of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company that just as soon as they begin branch line projects the Mankota-Val Marie line is one of those which will be considered.

The hon. member spoke of the station agent. That is a matter for the board of transport commissioners. Under the Railway Act they have full jurisdiction to deal with the subject. With reference to the railway station, that again is a matter for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and if it will assist my hon. friend I shall be glad to direct his remarks to the attention of the officers of the railway.

Mr. BROOKS: There are a few matters that I should like to mention. First, I should like to congratulate the hon. member for Inverness-Richmond upon bringing to the attention of the committee the matter of the double-tracking of the railway from Moncton to Halifax and also the causeway at Canso. This is not new. It is not the first time that these matters have been brought before the house. I have been here for a number of years now, and I do not think a year has passed but that some hon. member from the maritime provinces has recommended that the main line of the Canadian National railway be double-tracked from Moncton to Halifax and from Moncton to Sydney. I do not suppose that there is any part of Canada where it is more needed than in the maritime provinces, as was suggested by the hon. member for Inverness-Richmond.

It is not my intention to ask very much for my own constituency. As a matter of fact the minister knows that my constituency is an inland one. We have no wharves or causeways or anything of that kind to request. I was much interested in the remarks of the hon. member for Wood Mountain, who just took his seat, and in his description of the railway station in his home town. I point out to the Minister of Transport that the Canadian National Railways have many old stations, and possibly I have as many in my constituency as are to be found in any other place in Canada. They are homely and ugly buildings. I would suggest to the minister that as soon as possible something should be done to replace these buildings. I would also suggest to him that when we have new buildings put up they be not of the kind described by the hon. member for Wood Mountain; they are more of the boxcar type of building. When the minister's department decide to build new railway stations, or when the Canadian National Railways decides to build them I suggest that they employ an architect so that we shall have

good-looking stations. They do not cost much more and they add to the attraction of the countryside.

Last night and this evening mention was made of the merchant marine and the treatment which they have received. I do not apologize for mentioning it again, although I have spoken on it a number of times in the house. I have always felt that our merchant marine did not receive when the war ended, and have not received since, the justice to which they were entitled. In that connection the merchant marine is spoken of as the fourth branch of our service. I should like to quote what the Prime Minister so eloquently said yesterday in speaking of the debt that we owe to the different branches of the service. He said, as reported at page 4888 of *Hansard*:

I am sure I speak for all hon. members when I voice feeling of thankfulness for the part which Canada was privileged to take in helping to preserve the freedom of mankind in that great conflict. We look back with tremendous pride on the part which our defence forces were able to take, along with those of allied and associated forces; the contributions made by our army, our navy, our air force and the merchant marine.

In his remarks yesterday the Prime Minister, I am sure, recognized the fact that the merchant marine was a branch of the services during the great war. In the remarks that he made yesterday I am sure he realized that they were on an equal footing with the other branches of the services.

Last evening the hon. member for Vancouver-Burrard covered this subject very well. He pointed out how this branch of the service was greatly discriminated against. I do not think anyone will question that statement. Tonight the hon. member for Queens-Lunenburg made mention of one particular. The hon. member for Gaspé also made mention of this fact. I am not going to emphasize this point particularly tonight, but I wish to call to the minister's attention what I consider the unjust treatment which these men have received.

Last night the minister spoke of the benefits which the merchant marine had received. I acknowledge that they have received some benefits, but they have not received benefits in any way commensurate with the services which they have given to this country. One of the chief complaints is the education of the younger men who joined the merchant marine. From my own part of the country there were many young men who, instead of joining the air force or the army, joined the merchant marine. Their services were needed. They were told that they were doing a