

responsible to no one, is apparently without a policy, and so far as public relations are concerned, is without even a voice. In addition, there is, to put it mildly, serious lack of agreement among the trustees themselves, and the fate of any measure with which they must deal depends upon whether one of the other trustees can be brought to agree with the views of the chairman, who is vested with over-riding in that the majority vote of the trustees is ineffective unless the chairman be included in that majority.

Now, then, I should like to ask what comment—

Mr. MAYBANK: I object to that question. Here we have had a long article read, and the president of the railway is being asked to comment on it. I think that is asking the president to join issue with the minister in regard to the railways, and that is asking a little too much.

Hon. Mr. STEWART: I am not going to ask—

Mr. MAYBANK: To ask him to join issue with the minister in that regard certainly puts him in a very difficult position, and one that is not necessary.

Mr. HEAPS: It is quite possible that Mr. Fullerton may have a statement to make to this committee in respect of a situation which has developed in the last few months, and if that is the case, I do not think we should do anything here to debar Mr. Fullerton from making a statement to the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: As the minister in charge of the department has no objection whatever to Mr. Fullerton making the statement—

Mr. BOTHWELL: I think there should be concrete questions put on the basis of that argument.

The CHAIRMAN: If you will allow me to continue, I shall ask Mr. Stewart if he is going to put blunt questions. Surely, you are not going simply to read the report of Mr. Howe's speech in the house and ask the chairman of the board of trustees to comment on it? You must put a specific question to him.

Mr. MAYBANK: I want to make my objection clear. I am not objecting to Mr. Stewart asking questions of Mr. Fullerton. As I understood it, the comments were directed to Mr. Hungerford. It was with reference to that I was objecting. Do I understand now the question was put to Mr. Fullerton?

Hon. Mr. STEWART: I am not addressing my questions to Mr. Fullerton. I endeavoured to anticipate your objection to my asking detailed and possibly embarrassing questions. I want to leave it to the gentlemen here to make such statements as they deem necessary to answer this statement.

The CHAIRMAN: Are you satisfied that Judge Fullerton should make the statement?

Mr. HEAPS: Do I understand that Mr. Stewart is asking Mr. Fullerton a question, and are we to expect individual replies to various questions asked, or should we ask Mr. Fullerton if he has any statement to make to this committee? Perhaps he could make a statement to this committee that might possibly cover some of the questions Mr. Stewart has in mind.

Hon. Mr. STEWART: I do not want to monopolize the committee. I want everybody to be free to ask questions.

Mr. BOTHWELL: We are more or less a fact-finding body here. There have been certain statements read from Hansard by Mr. Stewart. I think he can base concrete questions on the statement that he read. If there are any facts that can be elicited from Mr. Fullerton or any other member of the Canadian National Board, the committee are entitled to the information, and Mr. Stewart also.

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps we might consult the chairman of the board of trustees. Do you prefer to make a general statement, sir, or do you prefer to answer specific questions?