

*By Mr. Fisher:*

Q. I should like to ask a general question. I am interested in the source of this amendment. Mr. Hees has credited Mr. Chevrier with introducing this legislation. Now amendments have come up, and they are fine. Who was at the centre in making arrangements for and initiating these amendments?—A. The gentleman on my right, Mr. Leavey, and myself, and the ship building industry, and the ship owning industry, and Mr. Hees—all the people connected with this over a period of time.

Clause 2 agreed to.

On clause 3—Application.

*By Mr. Marler:*

Q. Would Mr. Audette explain why we put in clause 3?—A. Yes; clause 3 was introduced for this reason; it is not always certain that a bill will get through in a given session of parliament.

Q. We have discovered that already.

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. May I follow up that question by asking this one: how many ships are going to benefit by this clause?—A. May I say one more thing. Certain owners, on the basis of the introduction of a very similar bill in the last session of parliament, did make commitments and if this bill had not passed at this session of parliament it could well have been that the legislation would not have been applicable until the 1958 taxation year. The owners who had made commitments in our Canadian yards would have found themselves in a difficult position.

Q. How many of them have made commitments in Canadian yards, and will benefit by this section in 1957?—A. By clause 3, do you mean?

Q. Yes.—A. It should be close to half a dozen.

Q. They get in by the skin of their teeth.—A. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN: I believe Mr. Hees wishes to speak with respect to clause 3.

Mr. HEES: I just wish to say again, to the new members of the house, that Mr. Marler had a great deal to do with the generation of this amendment, and deserves a great deal of credit for what I believe are very excellent amendments. I hope you will feel the same.

Clause 3 agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall I report the bill.

Agreed.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, gentlemen, I do wish to thank Mr. Audette and Mr. Leavey for having come here. Mr. Audette has been an excellent witness, and I feel sure that the reporters could hear everything he said. His observations were distinct and clear.

Mr. CHEVRIER: I think he was well prepared, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I think he did very well in his handling of the bill.

The Committee proceed to consideration of a private bill, namely (Letter O-5 of the Senate), "An Act respecting the St. Mary River Bridge Company".