

Trade Agreements

The waiting period has been reduced from four days to three days and burial allowance has been raised from \$200 to \$300.

In the absence of any assurance as to when this legislation would come before the house we did not make arrangements for any officials to be here. However, I would be prepared to answer to the best of my ability any questions which members may wish to raise.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): As far as we are concerned, we have studied this bill and approved of it and are prepared to pass it; we will not ply the parliamentary secretary with questions which he may not be able to answer.

The amendment proposed here appear to be sensible amendments and if they meet the requirements of the merchant seamen then, of course, they should go through the house. To the extent that provision is being made for widows and dependant children, we are entirely in agreement with the idea. As far as our party is concerned we are prepared to accept this bill and proceed with it right away.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time, considered in committee and reported.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Batten): When shall the bill be read the third time? By leave, now?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. McIlraith (for Mr. MacEachen) moved the third reading of the bill.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

TRADEAPPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CANADA AND HUNGARY

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (for the Minister of Trade and Commerce) moved:

That it is expedient that the houses of parliament do approve the trade agreement between Canada and the Hungarian People's Republic, signed at Ottawa, June 11, 1964, and laid before the House of Commons on June 11, 1964; and that this house do approve the same.

Mr. Winch: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the house leader one question. I have no objection to this resolution, but are there any bills which are short and with which it is necessary that we deal before this house adjourns? Are there any such bills that required to be dealt with now?

Mr. McIlraith: I believe not, Mr. Speaker. There are a couple of other bills that I mentioned in the list given the other day, but

there has been some question about taking them now. For that reason I was asked to have called the items concerned with the approval of trade agreements.

Mr. Pennell: Mr. Speaker, if I may interpose here, it is my understanding that Bill No. C-137 is essential. This is the C.N.R. financing and guarantee act.

Mr. McIlraith: There was an agreement about that.

Mr. Pennell: I may have been out of the house at the time.

Motion agreed to.

APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN CANADA AND RUSSIA

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (for the Minister of Trade and Commerce) moved:

That it is expedient that the houses of parliament do approve the protocol renewing the trade agreement between Canada and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, signed on February 29, 1956, and renewed on April 18, 1960, signed at Ottawa September 16, 1963, laid before the House of Commons on October 9, 1963; and that this house do approve the same.

Motion agreed to.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CANADA AND BULGARIA

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (for the Minister of Trade and Commerce) moved:

That it is expedient that the houses of parliament do approve the trade agreement between Canada and the People's Republic of Bulgaria, signed at Ottawa, October 8, 1963, and laid before the House of Commons on October 21, 1963; and that this house do approve the same.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Churchill: Mr. Speaker, may we now suspend the sitting until the bells ring?

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could have the consent of the house to revert to motions in order to table documents that the Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) undertook to table earlier today. One was a letter from the Prime Minister to his cabinet colleagues. This was referred to in the early part of today's proceedings and the Prime Minister undertook to table it. If I receive consent to revert to motions for that purpose, I will table this document.

The other material that I will table is correspondence that passed between the Prime Minister and the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale). There was a letter from the Prime Minister dated December 14,