

Defence Production Act

Mr. Richardson: May I ask the hon. member a question?

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): Absolutely.

Mr. Richardson: It is a little difficult to hear on this side of the house. Did I understand him to say that he is taking part in a filibuster?

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): If you call this a filibuster, I would say I am taking part in it—

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): A small part.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough):—because it has been called a filibuster by the Liberals.

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): No, no, no,—by your side.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): Yes, yes, yes.

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): No, no, no; read *Hansard*; on your side.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): Yes, yes. And may I ask the hon. member if he is going to make this speech.

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): No, I will listen.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): That's fine. That's exactly what I thought.

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): Because you are very interesting.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): That's the stuff.

I have said that I do not like to make long speeches. Many years ago a senator from Hamilton, the Hon. George Lynch-Staunton, and I used to walk down to the office together. At that time he said to me, "In making a speech, if you cannot strike oil within the first five minutes, you should stop boring." But in this case the opposition have to keep on boring, boring and boring.

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): They are very successful at it, too.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): I hope we are.

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): I was never so bored in my life.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): I do not doubt that the Minister of Defence Production (Mr. Howe) is thoroughly bored.

Mr. Fleming: All the oil has run out of him.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): And he will be bored much more before this is over. In fact, we hope in time he will be so bored that he will feel that at last he might give in just a little bit.

I am going to vote for this amendment moved by the hon. member for Royal (Mr. Brooks) and seconded by the hon. member for Wentworth, who has just taken his seat.

[Mr. Fraser (Peterborough).]

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): Where is he?

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): He just left the house.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): He will be back in a minute. He was in the house all morning, and was here when the minister left at noon.

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): What morning?

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): This morning, when there were just 11 Liberal members in the house—

An hon. Member: Only nine at one time.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough):—and 12 Conservatives, and I do not think there was one cabinet minister. Then there were one or two—

Mr. Brown (Essex West): Get on with the speech.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): There were one or two C.C.F. members and a few Social Crediters.

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): Where is the second order now?

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): He will be back again.

I said I was going to vote for the amendment, and I am voting for it because I think it is fair. It is an amendment that the government could adopt without any difficulty. If the amendment were adopted the Minister of Defence Production would not lose a bit of his power. And I am pausing right now to say that the hon. member for Wentworth is back in his seat, as I told the hon. member he would be.

Mr. Lennard: Who was worrying about me?

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): Liberal members were worrying about whether the hon. member for Wentworth would be back again.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order.

Mr. Lennard: I will be here until it is ended, if that is what they want to know.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): I have said that this amendment would not take anything away from the minister.

Mr. Lennard: I would like to go fishing, though.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): All we ask is that the bill be put before the committee on banking and commerce, of which I happen to be a member. In that committee it would be studied and then brought back to the house. The government could not possibly lose anything by taking that action, because