

right away than continue to put up with what I have seen happening in this house, because we are sent here to represent the people. I come from a large commercial city which pays more taxes than any other city in the country and as much as several of the provinces. The business men expect me to look after their interests.

We are very shorthanded here. There is one vacancy; two hon. members are ill and one hon. member is not here. We have a fine representative in the hon. member for Davenport, who never misses a day. I represent Ashbridges bay where there are over a hundred new industries, coal and all these other things, and I am pestered to death when I go home. People telephone me to ask if I have seen the wartime prices and trade board and the foreign exchange control board about permits and I have to advise them whether they are residents or non-residents and how to go about it.

I do not know of anything that will cause more unemployment than this section, and there are hundreds out of work in our city at the present time. The business men are scared to death of being prosecuted in the police court under the bureaucratic system we have in this bill. Talk about hitlerism; we have hitlerism right now. Business men have a heavy task awaiting them in reconversion so that Canada may recover quickly. I would not want to be a business man to-day. I am sorry for business men, large and small, and for retail and wholesale dealers on our main streets. They are scared to death to do anything in export trade with non-residents for fear they will be summoned to the police court.

Is Canada going to recover any more quickly by having section 32 in this act which compels the taking out of a permit to do any business and requires a lawyer to tell you what a non-resident is, or value, or exchange rules, or a contract? I say no. Canada needs stability to speed the delivery of all classes of goods and meet market demands, so as to aid peacetime economy in employment, supply civilian needs and restore as soon as possible living standards, and defeat inflation and black markets. During the war we had a whole carload of people down in Washington to tell our business men what they had to do and what was the next step. We should get rid of these ham-stringing regulations so that business men can do business. Let us get rid of these irksome controls and remove the shackles from industry large and small. Give private enterprise a clear right of way unfettered by

[Mr. Church.]

a small standing army of inspectors, examiners, supervisors, card-filing clerks of a worn-out system of control. The time has come to end this bureaucratic system by striking out this clause. Every other two pages of definitions have to be read into section 32. Business must have freedom once again to succeed by free enterprise. We should put an end to government controls by blue-prints and a horde of useless officials, most of whom have never had any training in any competitive business which they seek to control.

The CHAIRMAN: Before the committee continues with this discussion may I remind hon. members that we are considering clause 32. I hesitate to rise to interrupt any hon. member when he is speaking to remind him of the clause before the committee. A good deal of the discussion this morning has been with regard to the principle of the bill and has not been directed strictly to the clause. I believe it is the wish of the committee that the clauses should be considered and that the discussion should be directed to the clause under consideration.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): I shall follow your instruction, Mr. Chairman. All I want to do is to read this clause, and I ask hon. members to listen to it—it is quite short; then I want to ask hon. members and the minister whether by any conceivable chance they can agree that this clause is necessary to what I admit is a legitimate aim of the bill. I have said frankly, and I say it again, that I would not want to take the responsibility of saying that there may not be an occasion on which some of these controls are temporarily necessary. What I plead for is a relaxation of the rigidity of the controls and for a limitation to be placed on its operation. The section reads, and I ask everyone to listen:

No resident shall, except in accordance with a permit, perform or agree to perform, in Canada or elsewhere, for a non-resident any services of a kind ordinarily performed for remuneration otherwise than on terms that provide for payment within six months of not less than the fair value thereof in a currency designated by the board as acceptable for such a transaction.

As I understand that, it means that nobody in this country can do a job, however small, with anyone in the United States without having it approved. Who is going to approve it? Who is going to exercise the judgment?

Mr. ABBOTT: No permit is needed if he complies with the instructions in the latter part of the section, "otherwise than on terms