

make clear that it is to be temporary. I am inclined to agree that the time limit suggested by the honourable leader opposite (Hon. Mr. Haig) would be sufficient for a test of the bill in operation, and I feel sure that if at the expiration of that time the government of the day considered that the life of the measure should be extended, this honourable chamber would be agreeable to that.

I should not like to see the amendment adopted and the bill thrown out. In committee we can amend the bill to ensure that it embodies all the provisions we regard as necessary and has none that are objectionable, and in particular we can ensure that the control will not be continued indefinitely. I am not at all concerned as to whether or not the government has indicated any willingness to accept the time limit suggested by the honourable leader opposite.

We should make whatever stipulation we wish as to time limit, and if it or any other amendment is rejected by the other house, the responsibility for such action will not be ours. We should not inquire of the government whether any amendment proposed in committee is acceptable to it. This measure should be dealt with in the same way as any other. In committee we ought to be able to make this a workable piece of legislation, and so do away with the necessity for the present orders in council.

Hon. W. J. HUSHION: Honourable senators, as the seconder of the amendment, I should like to say a word or two. I have read the bill carefully, and I have followed what has been said about it in the Senate and in the Banking and Commerce Committee. In discussing the bill when the motion for second reading was first before us, the honourable senator from Toronto-Trinity (Hon. Mr. Roebuck) went into a lot of detail, and as he proceeded he frequently referred to the extraordinary powers the bill would give to the Foreign Exchange Control Board. I was much impressed by his remarks. Then there was a most excellent speech by the honourable senator from Churchill (Hon. Mr. Crerar)—I consider it the best speech I have heard in this chamber in a long time. I listened with close attention also to what was said by the honourable senator from Vancouver-Burrard (Hon. Mr. McGeer).

I am not a lawyer or a banker, honourable senators, but an ordinary business man, and in the committee I found it a little hard to comprehend this legislation and the large figures that were mentioned. However, what caused me to second the amendment was an answer made by Mr. Towers. He was asked if it was necessary that this important bill—and it is important—be passed right now. He

said: "No, it is the wish of the minister that the bill should be put through now." I think it would be a shame to pass a bill of this importance at this time, but apparently some honourable members wish to do it. Personally, I am very much surprised that some of the lawyer-members of this honourable senate, who started off by seeing nothing but danger in this bill, see another angle of it to-night. I cannot quite follow this sudden and surprising change of view. Really, I am astonished to see how legal lights can wiggle around any subject. Surely they must think the ordinary man in the street is a fool. I would like to ask honourable gentlemen on this side to be mindful that the people are not quite so soft as, apparently, they thought them to be.

If this bill means what we think it does, then it is only right that it should be thrown back to the government for reconsideration. We should be given plenty of time to study a measure which confers such unlimited authority on the Foreign Exchange Control Board. A bill of this magnitude should not be presented to us in the last hours of a dying session. There is no occasion for hurry. The Foreign Exchange Control Board can still operate under the order-in-council, and the government will have a year and sixty days within which to prepare a satisfactory bill. This would give the people of Canada time to know something about the details of the proposed legislation. I could tell you about a lot of fellows whose business has been crippled by these controls. Let me remind the members of this honourable house that it is not they alone who will have the worry and tribulation incident to the operation of this bill; the children of our children will carry the burden of these controls. So let us get this thing right at the start.

I hope those honourable senators who had not the opportunity of listening to the speech delivered by the honourable gentleman from Churchill (Hon. Mr. Crerar) will read the report of it in the Senate *Hansard*. The spirit of Liberalism runs through that speech, and it is timely that we should be reminded of what that word means. I congratulate the honourable gentleman on his very fine contribution to this debate.

I repeat, I see no reason for rushing this bill through, adding an amendment here and an amendment there. Let it go back from where it came; let the Acting Minister of Finance prepare a suitable measure and present it to this house, and I am sure it will be treated properly. The honourable leader has urged that the bill be given second reading, and that it would not have this or that effect.