

Transportation

I wonder whether the minister would consider a change. The reason I do not like the wording is that it says in part:

—the commission shall undertake a study of the differences between rates on grain moving for export to ports in British Columbia—

Then follows the part I do not like:

—and rates on grain moving otherwise—

Does that mean moving east?

Mr. Pickersgill: No. It relates only to ports in British Columbia. To put it bluntly it means the domestic rates as compared to export rates. That is what the people from British Columbia were asking. It has no relation to any part of the country except British Columbia and grain moving into British Columbia.

Mr. McIntosh: I have no objection if it relates to ports in British Columbia and so on but I am suspicious of the wording here. I should like to have it changed.

Mr. Deachman: Mr. Chairman, I might assist the hon. member. If he will read a little further he will find that it says, "on grain moving otherwise to such ports". "Such ports" refers back to the ports of British Columbia. So it refers only to grain moving from the prairies to British Columbia.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): Mr. Chairman, might I say a word?

The Chairman: I recognize the hon. member for Acadia, but I should like to point out to the committee that when the minister rose he rose to ask for unanimous consent to present an amendment to clause 74.

• (4:20 p.m.)

At the moment I should point out to the committee that we are on clause 1.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): Mr. Chairman, first of all I should like to say that I was recorded yesterday as saying some words in the heat of the debate which I now wish I had not said. I do not deny having said them but I would like to apologize to you, having had my faith in democracy restored by what might be termed the supreme court's ruling on the case that was before the house. I should like you to know that the remarks I made were in the heat of battle and I would not like you to consider them to be as harsh as they sounded at the time. I should like to make that apology to you, Mr. Chairman.

Having said that I should like to ask the minister a question. There is a small amendment to clause 74, section 469, which I should like to move. Would the minister like to hear the amendment now or are we to discuss clause 1 at this time?

Mr. Pickersgill: There is no reason why the hon. gentleman should not make an amendment as long as it is in order, and I wish him better luck than I had.

May I say, sir, how pleased I am by what the hon. member for Acadia said today. I think he has revealed to me and to a lot of us that in the consideration of this bill about which he felt very strongly and to which he has applied himself with great diligence—and I would say has had some influence on—he has revealed to us a new side and has gained new stature and new respect in the house. We all do things in the heat of battle. Perhaps I do not get as hot as fast as some other hon. members do, although I think perhaps there have been times when I have been provoked. I regretted and deplored the fact that those words were uttered. I am glad the hon. gentleman feels the same way and I hope Your Honour will feel that the amends are complete. I am sure all of us on both sides of the house have absolutely undiminished confidence in Your Honour's impartiality.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): Can the chairman tell us what clause we are considering now? Are we on clause 1 or on clause 74?

The Chairman: May I say to the hon. member for Acadia that we are now on clause 1 and it would be the preference of the Chair if the hon. member could hold his amendment in abeyance until we get to clause 74.

Mr. Pickersgill: Since we are proceeding in a highly irregular but somewhat more harmonious fashion and since we have allowed in discussion of clause 1 latitude almost beyond where latitude stretches, perhaps we could let the hon. gentleman read the amendment which he proposes to move at a later stage and send a copy to you, Mr. Chairman, so that it would be handy when we reach clause 74. This would give me a little chance to do some thinking about it.

The Chairman: If it is the intention of the hon. member for Acadia to give notice of the amendment which he proposes to move I would suggest to him that there is nothing irregular in that procedure.