

Western Grain Transportation Act

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am sure the Hon. Member for Vegreville was prepared to cede the floor to the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain for comment at this point, having introduced the first of his motions.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Hon. Member for Vegreville is now asking the Chair to seek unanimous consent to permit the Hon. Member for Vegreville to put the motion, which he read and explained, on the Order Paper.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Vegreville is making the same request as did the Hon. Minister of Transport a short while ago. Under the circumstances, the Chair is asking for unanimous consent. Is there consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain wish to be recognized on this matter?

Mr. Deans: No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, I thank you and I would also like to thank Hon. Members of the House for granting that consent.

The second motion for which I seek the same unanimous consent, Mr. Speaker, reads as follows:

That Bill C-155 be amended in Clause 58 by immediately adding after line 13 at page 34 the following therefor:

"58. (3) Notwithstanding anything in this Act, based upon the recommendations of the committee established under section 59(2) to examine the method of payment, the Governor in Council may, subject to approval by Parliament, make regulations prescribing the manner in which, and the parties to whom, payment of the government contribution, including the Crow benefit, shall be made."

By way of a brief explanation, Mr. Speaker, that would provide for an enabling mechanism, pending the outcome of the review of the Commission of Inquiry established under Clause 59(2), for a modified method of payment, depending upon the recommendations that flowed from the inquiry, to be incorporated into this piece of legislation subject to the recommendations of the Governor in Council and subject to approval of Parliament. This deals with the distribution of the Crow benefit.

Under the provisions of the Bill, the total Crow benefit is paid directly to the railroads. If the Commission of Inquiry finds that there is a better system or way to distribute that payment, and a recommendation flows therefrom, this would enable that to take place.

I would ask, Mr. Speaker, if you would seek the unanimous consent of the House to have that motion placed on the Order Paper for debate and further disposition.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Vegreville seeks the unanimous consent of the House to have the motion which he has just read placed on the Order Paper for further consideration. Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

● (1550)

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, the third proposal concerns Clause 62 of Bill C-155. We are proposing:

That Bill C-155 be amended at page 35 by deleting lines 19 to 24 so that the clause would now read:

"62. Notwithstanding the Crow's Nest Pass Act, and any agreement made pursuant thereto, the Government of Canada, in the spirit of the Constitution of Canada which gives to the several provinces the proprietary interest in, and the right to legislate for, lands, minerals and resources within their respective provinces, shall, for greater certainty, confirm the proprietary ownership in all lands and minerals, including coal, within Parcels 73 and 82 of the Dominion Coal Blocks, to Her Majesty in right of British Columbia to hold, dispose of or otherwise deal with, as is deemed fit."

This particular clause in Bill C-155 as it now exists would see these lands revert to the federal Crown. We are suggesting here that these lands revert to the Crown in the name of the Province of British Columbia. Again, I would ask unanimous consent of the House to have this motion put on the Order Paper for debate.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member asks for unanimous consent of the House. Is there agreement?

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, of course we will be happy to give unanimous consent to something we have been proposing since the day the Bill was introduced. It is unfortunate that the Conservatives had not joined with us earlier in the debate.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member gives unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, I have one more motion I wish to present. I hope the Minister and the spokesman for the NDP will follow this very closely because I think that, in addition to granting unanimous consent to have this motion put on the Order Paper, I believe there is general agreement that the motion I will be presenting has support of all Members in the House. It is something that we have wrestled with in the committee and on the floor of the House for quite some time. It deals with the definition of "export".

Essentially, the proposal that I have is:

That Bill C-155 be amended in Clause 2 by striking out lines 7 to 9 at page 2 and substituting the following therefor:

"'export' is respect of grain means shipment by vessel within the meaning of the Canada Shipping Act to any destination outside Canada and shipment by any other mode of transport to the United States for use of the grain in that country and not for shipment out of that country;"

As I said earlier, this particular definition has caused the committee and the House some difficulty, but I believe, in trying to meet all of the objectives and overcome some of the difficulties we have had with previous definitions, that this will more or less fit the bill. I hope that, in addition to receiving unanimous consent to have this matter brought forth for debate, we might also obtain unanimous consent for its acceptance at the same time.