

Mr. CROLL: Any draft the Combines branch would prepare for the minister would be privileged. It is departmental privilege. It is not a matter for us. If it is in order, Mr. Chairman, I will move that the Combines branch be asked to resolve in legal form the recommendations of the MacQuarrie Commission for our consideration.

Mr. BEAUDRY: I will second that.

Mr. FULTON: I move an amendment that along with that draft bill there be laid before the committee the draft bill already prepared by the branch.

Mr. CROLL: Question.

The CHAIRMAN: I will put the amendment first. All in favour of the amendment? Contrary?

The amendment is defeated.

All in favour of the main motion? Contrary?

The motion is carried.

Now, I do not know whether this is in anticipation of the motion but I actually did ask the combines commissioner to prepare such a draft. In any case, I think the next order of business would be to call on Mr. MacDonald, the combines commissioner.

Mr. T. D. MacDonald, Commissioner, Combines Investigation Act.

The WITNESS: As requested by you, sir, some days ago, I have brought here copies of a draft amendment to the Combines Investigation Act which I think substantially represents the recommendations of the MacQuarrie committee report in legislative form.

The CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the committee to have this distributed now?

Mr. CROLL: Yes, let us file it.

The WITNESS: May I also distribute for the convenience of members copies of the Combines Investigation Act?

Mr. THATCHER: May I ask one question before you proceed? Is this legislation that you have just passed out to us any different from the draft Mr. MacDonald prepared earlier for the minister?

The CHAIRMAN: As I understand it we are asking the Combines Commissioner to turn into legal form the recommendations of the MacQuarrie Commission. The only knowledge we will have of the bill which has been approved by the minister will be when we see it in the House of Commons.

Mr. FULTON: Well, why can we not ask the commissioner whether this is the same as the bill he previously drafted?

Mr. BEAUDRY: Why do you not try to find out what time the minister goes to bed. I object to that.

Mr. THATCHER: Are the government members trying to streamroller this thing through?

The CHAIRMAN: Order, one at a time, please.

Mr. FULTON: I quite agree that the private life of the minister is none of our business but I do suggest that the policy of the government as announced in the speech from the throne is our business and it is to that my question is directed. The interruption by the honourable member who says I want to know what time the minister goes to bed was stupid. We are dealing here with government policy as announced in the speech from the throne, and that announcement made it quite clear there was legislation and that was confirmed