Canada Shipping Act

Some hon. Members: On division.

Motion agreed to, bill read the third time and passed.

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, may I call it one o'clock?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being one o'clock I do now leave the Chair until two o'clock this afternoon.

Mr. Monteith: Mr. Speaker, if I might make a suggestion I think item No. 76 could be disposed of in five minutes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

RADIATION EMITTING DEVICES BILL

ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDARDS, APPOINT-MENT OF INSPECTORS

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (for the Minister of National Health and Welfare) moved that Bill S-14, respecting the sale and importation of certain radiation emitting devices, as reported (with an amendment) from the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs be concurred in.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed. Motion agreed to.

Mr. Pepin (for the Minister of National Health and Welfare) moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

Hon. J. W. Monteith (Perth): Mr. Speaker, I shall be very brief, but I should like to draw the attention of the House to clause 13 of the bill where, in the case of an offence, the onus is placed upon the accused. Clause 13 reads:

In any prosecution for an offence under this act, it is sufficient proof of the offence to establish that it was committed by an employee or agent of the accused whether or not the employee or agent is identified or has been prosecuted for the offence, unless the accused establishes that the offence was committed without his knowledge or consent and that he exercised all due diligence to prevent its commission.

This places the onus upon the accused to prove his innocence, something which has never been considered justice in Canada except by the Department of National Revenue which has taken this view for some time. I maintain that the onus should be on the prosecution to prove guilt and not upon the accused to prove innocence.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Monteith: Too much legislation is being brought before us in which the individual is losing his ordinary rights. In this particular case, the prosecution is given the opportunity to say "You are guilty". I cannot stress strongly enough the recent trend in legislation toward taking away the rights of the individual. I think this is completely wrong. Aside from that point, the legislation meets with my approval. When the matter was before the committee, unfortunately, either I was not a member of the committee or was out of Ottawa and I wonder if the Parliamentary Secretary could explain the amendment as reported by the committee.

Stanley Haidasz (Parliamentary Mr. Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the amendment in committee actually pertains to section 2 of Bill S-14 and deals with the definition of a radiation emitting device. The amendment was that radiation emitting device means any device which emits radiation. This would meet the point of view of many members of the House who wanted to know whether a colour television set which emits a certain amount of radiation would be covered by this bill. As far as the other point raised by the hon. member for Perth (Mr. Monteith) is concerned, it was discussed by the legal authorities of the department both when this bill was studied-

Mr. Monteith: Bureaucracy is taking over.

Mr. Haidasz: —by the minister and also in committee, and we were assured that all of the provisions of this bill are in order. Such fears as those expressed by the hon. member for Perth really should not be entertained.

Mr. Monieith: I entertain them all right.

Motion agreed to, bill read the third time and passed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock.

At one o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

PROVISION FOR ESTABLISHMENT

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs) moved the second reading of