

working in that industry will still have their jobs after these changes in legislation.

● (2000)

It is fine for a Prime Minister seeking an issue to run on in an election to hype free trade. It is well and good for economists who live in university ivory towers to promote the theory of free trade. However, when it comes down to the bread and butter issues for the people who work in the textile industry, they would like an orderly transition. They want their interests taken into account before legislation is changed.

We are afraid this legislation will weaken the instruments in the hands of the textile industry which ensure its survival. We in this Party have pointed out weaknesses in the legislation which ought to be corrected before it is passed. My colleague from Windsor introduced specific amendments because we want the people who work in the industry to feel secure and know that tomorrow morning, when they get up, their jobs will be there and that they will not be guinea pigs for some academic theory of free trade. Let us plan where we are going in an orderly fashion. Let us proceed with some care and caution. I urge the Government to accept the amendments we put forward so that the dangers contained in the legislation for the textile industry are not there when the legislation is passed.

It is well known that there are countries that produce textile products with labour which is paid at a much lower rate than is possible in Canada, even though the people who work in the industry in Canada earn low wages by our standards. Therefore, if we just throw open the doors to international competition, then we put the jobs of those presently in the industry at risk. If we are marching down the road to more liberalized trade, if we are going to bring down trade barriers, let us do it cautiously. Let us amend the legislation before it passes so the people in the industry will know that we have taken their interests into account and that we are not just following the theory of some academic economist or some political leader seeking an issue for a general election.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those opposed will please say nay.

Bretton Woods and Related Agreements Act

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): In my opinion the yeas have it.

And more than five members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Call in the Members.

And the division bells having rung:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Pursuant to Standing Order 13(4)(a), I have been requested by the assistant to the Chief Government Whip to defer the division until a later time.

Accordingly, pursuant to Standing Order 13(5), the division on the question now before the House stands deferred until Monday at 6 p.m., at which time the bells to call in the Members will be sounded for not more than 15 minutes.

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**BRETTON WOODS AND RELATED AGREEMENTS
ACT**

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-126, an Act to amend the Bretton Woods and Related Agreements Act, as reported (without amendments) from a legislative committee.

Hon. Gerald S. Merrithew (for the Minister of State (Finance)) moved that the Bill be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Merrithew (for the Minister of State (Finance)) moved that the Bill be read the third time and passed.

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): Mr. Speaker, I see that I have unlimited time. This is the first and may be the last time I will have that opportunity.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Merrithew: We are adjourning at ten o'clock.

Mr. Manly: Well, I can carry on tomorrow and Monday.

Seriously, this is not the routine Bill that its treatment by the House would appear to indicate. It deals with Canada's relationship with the debt-ridden, poverty-stricken nations and peoples of the Third World. The Bill gives the Government authority to provide funds to the International Monetary Fund, through loans and grants, for a trust or any other body established by the IMF. The Government has explained that these moneys are for enhanced structural adjustment facilities, or ESAF. It provides highly concessional terms to the poorest countries faced with the problems of debt repayment and