

specialists in their particular callings. The railway engineers, dispatchers, conductors, trainmen, shop workers and track men, while their services are essential to the conduct of the railroad, find it very difficult when they are laid off and thrown upon the general labour market; their only chance of obtaining employment is to go into the unskilled class.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. MacNicol): If the hon. gentleman will allow me, we are discussing section 1, the short title, and the hon. gentleman's remarks would be perfectly in order under a later section of the bill. I must ask the committee either to adhere to the section we are discussing or to leave it wide open for any speeches that might be made. I would request the hon. member to confine his remarks strictly to the section under discussion.

Mr. MITCHELL: Mr. Chairman, I did not intend to speak this afternoon, but certain remarks were made by the minister and other hon. gentlemen with respect to pensions. I have certain suggestions to make, and I understand that the debate will close at six o'clock.

Mr. MANION: I am not sure as to that. Some hon. members asked me if that would be possible, and I told them it would, but I am not sure that it will be done.

Mr. MITCHELL: All that I want is some continuity to it.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. MacNicol): Is it the pleasure of the committee that the hon. gentleman shall continue to discuss something absolutely foreign to the section before us?

Mr. MITCHELL: Mr. Chairman, I think I am entitled—

Mr. VENIOT: I rise to a point of order, Mr. Chairman. This question was brought up previously, and I directed the attention of the committee to the fact that, quite contrary to the usual practice, we are dealing with the title first. This section has to do with the short title, and in dealing with this section I claim we have a perfect right to deal with the bill as a whole, because we wish to give our reasons for opposing the adoption of section 1. That is the point of order I take now and it is the point I took previously. I think it should be decided now once and for all.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. MacNicol): Then I rule that what we are now discussing is section 1, the short title.

Mr. BEAUBIEN: Then may I ask a question. Does not the title of the bill bring in the whole principle of the bill?

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. MacNicol): When I took the chair the clerk advised me that we were discussing the short title. I therefore presumed that the title had been discussed previously. If that is not so are we to go back now and discuss the title? I refer the committee to standing order 76:

In proceedings in committee of the whole house upon bills, the preamble is first postponed, and then every clause considered by the committee in its proper order; the preamble and title to be last considered.

The first section has to do with the short title, and as I understand it that is what we are now discussing. The title is at the beginning of the bill, but it will be discussed later.

Mr. VENIOT: I claim that the short title should have been the last section in the bill.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. MacNicol): The standing order I read a moment ago gives the order of discussion. I am informed that we are now discussing section 1, the short title, and I am under the impression that the committee should confine its discussion to section 1.

Mr. POWER: Then may I make a suggestion to the minister? He might facilitate matters if he asked that section 1 stand; probably then we might get on.

Mr. MANION: Perhaps I might be permitted to say just a word. I have no desire to do anything but to facilitate matters, and earlier in the afternoon I did object to the general discussion. According to my understanding of the rule Mr. Chairman, I think there has been a slight misapprehension. The general discussion of the principle of the bill is carried on when the motion is made for second reading; once second reading is given it seems to me the discussion should be on each section in turn, as you have ruled. Before section 1, which deals with the short title, is reached, there is the title:

An act respecting the Canadian National Railways and to provide for cooperation with the Canadian Pacific Railway System, and for other purposes.

So far as there is a preamble I should say that is it.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: That is the title.

Mr. MANION: That is the title and the preamble, if you like, and that should be left to the last. Apparently my right hon. friend the leader of the opposition agrees. Now we are discussing the short title, and quite frankly I believe the discussion has been a bit wide of the mark. I only wish to facilitate the passage of the bill, but at the same time I should