

*Motions***JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

ORDER OF REFERENCE OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, as you know, I am a very popular Member of this House. When you called the item Motions, I was in full discussion with at least six or seven of my colleagues from around the House. May I ask the indulgence of the House to return to Motions because I have an Order that has met the approval of all Parties? I think you will find an inclination of the House to accept this motion by unanimous consent, without debate. May I have the concurrence of the House to revert to Motions, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: Does the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Hnatyshyn) have the unanimous consent of the House to revert to Motions?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, the order is as follows:

That, notwithstanding its order of reference dated Tuesday, February 26, 1985, it be an instruction to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs that it empower any subcommittee studying the status of equality rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, to report its findings with respect thereto, directly to the House of Commons.

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, just on a matter of clarification, I am sorry I did not ask before, but I was busy too—

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Talking to me.

Mr. Deans: I was talking to you, that is exactly right.

What is this significance of the words, "Empower any subcommittee"? It is "the subcommittee", is it not? There is one subcommittee?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I take it back. Yes.

Mr. Deans: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. Speaker: With that correction, the House has heard the terms of the motion. Is there unanimous consent for the introduction of the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CANADA SHIPPING ACT AND RELATED ACTS

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed from Tuesday, October 15, consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski that Bill C-75, an Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act and to amend the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, the Maritime Code Act and the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act, be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

Mr. George Henderson (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make a few comments on Bill C-75, an Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act and to amend the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, the Maritime Code Act and the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act in consequence thereof. This is a very large Bill, Sir. There is an awful lot in it and I must say some of it is long overdue. Some of the clauses in this Bill will improve our navigation systems. However, I am going to relate my comments specifically to Clause 4 of the Bill as it relates to the imposition, if you will, of user fees.

In the past six months, we have been involved in our Fisheries Committee with the fact that there is not enough money in the small craft harbours budget to repair the wharves, piers and the harbours in this great country of ours. Last night we were told by officials that after engineering costs were taken out by the Department of Public Works there was just a little over \$50 million in that budget for all the wharves and harbours in Canada. That includes our marinas in Quebec and Ontario, the commercial fishery of the West Coast, the sports fishery and the pleasure craft in British Columbia, the commercial fishery in the Atlantic Canada as well as the recreational users in that area.

Here we are with a Bill before us today that says that if improvements are to be made to our wharves and harbours, then there is a provision for this Government to pass on those user fees, I suppose, to the user.

I mentioned briefly yesterday what effect that will have in one port in particular in my Province of Prince Edward Island, namely Summerside. We ship about 85 per cent of all potato production from Prince Edward Island through Summerside. Prince Edward Island is basically an exporter of seed potatoes. I say without qualification that we grow the best seed potatoes in the world, so it is a very important industry to PEI.

The harbour of Summerside gets sanded up periodically because there is sand up and down the coast. If a major storm occurs from either the southwest or the northwest, the harbour can be completely filled with sand at any given time. It does not happen very often, but right now we have dredging operations going on.

The previous Government okayed a deep water berth for Summerside. This project was approved after much arm-twisting by myself and others and the new Government has seen fit to carry on with the project.