

Combines Investigation Act

their salaries as judges, and I understand that in certain provinces, not all, judges in certain jurisdictions receive an indemnity from the province to perform certain services under specified provincial acts.

The Chairman: Shall the title carry?

Some hon. Members: Carried.

Mr. MacLean (Queens): I just want to be clear that the amendment included the additional two judges for Manitoba?

Mr. Favreau: Yes, it includes the additional two judges for the court of Queen's bench in Manitoba, as well as the two judges for Quebec.

Mr. Knowles: To be clear, Mr. Chairman, should you not call clause 4 as well?

Mr. Favreau: Clause 4 is contained in the amendment.

Mr. Churchill: That is the trouble which arose. Did you call clause 4, Mr. Chairman, or just clauses 1, 2, 3 and the title?

The Chairman: I have just noticed the last paragraph of the amendment so I will now call clause 4.

Clause 4 agreed to.

The Chairman: Shall the title carry?

Mr. Prittie: Just before the title carries I would like to express the thought which has been felt by many people from time to time, that some time we should investigate the means of appointing judges and perhaps look at the United Kingdom practice which is almost completely non-political.

Mr. Diefenbaker: No it is not.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported and read the third time and passed.

COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice) moved the second reading of Bill No. C-141, to amend an act to amend the Combines Investigation Act and the Criminal Code.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am sure there would be agreement if the minister would give a short word of explanation in connection with this bill.

Mr. Favreau: Mr. Speaker, as the house knows, because of a situation which arose in B.C., in the case of a request under section 7

of the Combines Investigation Act, for an investigation into the operations and arrangements between fishermen and the purchasers and processors of fish in B.C., an amendment was made to the Combines Investigation Act providing for a moratorium during which the act would be deemed not to apply to those arrangements.

The moratorium was renewed and continued for further periods in 1960, 1961 and 1962. The last exemption by parliament in 1962 was for two years, to expire on December 31, 1964. Because of legal proceedings that have been taken against the restrictive trade practices commission and its members, which proceedings ended some time in 1962, the commission has not been in a position to send full notice to all the parties likely to be aggrieved by the proceedings and who ought to be heard, and it is not expected to be in a position to make a report for some time yet.

Furthermore, in the summer of 1963 there was a serious fishermen's strike, primarily over the minimum prices to be received by fishermen from the sale of fish. Arising out of this strike an intergovernmental committee, comprising federal and British Columbia civil servants, was appointed by the federal Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Robichaud) and the British Columbia minister of labour to examine in detail the problems concerned with wage and price disputes in the British Columbia fishing industry and to submit to both governments recommendations of action necessary to minimize interruption of fishing operations in the future.

While I understand the committee is expected to submit its report shortly, it will be necessary to allow sufficient time for consideration to be given to the committee's recommendations and for a decision to be made concerning their implementation by either or both of the governments concerned.

It is considered, therefore, that the moratorium provision should be extended for a further 18 months, that is to June 30, 1966, by which time it is expected there will have been a full opportunity to assess any recommendations and to have taken what action, if any, is required.

With respect to the inquiry I might add that it is the view of the restrictive trade practices commission that before proceeding further with the matter it should know the committee's recommendations and any action to be taken arising out of these recommendations. Those are the reasons for the request to the house to extend for a further period of 18