

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West)** moved:

Motion No. 16

That Bill C-18, be amended in Clause 22 by striking out line 14 at page 9 and substituting the following therefor:

"al of Parliament, make rules".

Motion No. 17

That Bill C-18, be amended in Clause 23 by striking out line 13 at page 10 and substituting the following therefor:

"23.(1) Parliament may, at".

Motion No. 50

That Bill C-18, be amended in Clause 85 by striking out lines 8 and 9 at page 39 and substituting the following therefor:

"such terms and conditions as the Agency may approve, provide the assistance".

He said: Mr. Speaker, the intent of these amendments is to require the agency, when it has set its rules and regulations, to return to Parliament with them, and that they be subject to the approval of Parliament which, I expect, would refer them to the Standing Committee on Transport. This would give Parliament some say in the manner in which the agency sets its procedures. It would make Parliament, with the Government, a source of policy direction for the agency.

With regard to Motion No. 50, some of the procedures and regulations of the agency will require a transporter, be it a trucking company, airline or railroad, to continue to provide a service for the public good, convenience and necessity. From time to time this may mean that subsidies will be required or at least will have to be available. This amendment would replace the Governor in Council with the agency as the one able to set the terms and conditions of such financial assistance.

In earlier amendments we proposed that once the agency has drafted its regulations, procedures, and the directions of its work, it should bring those to Parliament for approval. In that way members of this House and the standing committee can examine them and rule upon their adequacy or otherwise.

For many decades the old Board of Transport Commissioners and the Canadian Transport Commission operated too much under a veil of secrecy. Much of what they were doing was known only to them and the Governor in Council and one had a heck of a time finding out what was being done, how it was being done, and why. One had to go through a lot of red tape. In fact, you sometimes had to cut the red tape lengthwise in order to find out what was going on.

These amendments make a new national transportation agency more responsible to the public through Parliament and place it more in the public eye which means that it will be more accountable. Members of this place and members of the standing committee will have some important input with regard to how it functions and what kinds of regulations it has. I think that is overdue as a result of the experience we have had in transportation since the late 1800s.

I hope the Government will seriously consider this as a new and innovative way in which to give the public maximum and

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direct access to the agency through their elected representatives. They should be made aware of the way in which it functions and how well it functions. It should be responsive and respond quicker than it has in the past. This is a marked difference from previous practice. We consider it innovative, new, and useful in the new regime the Government wishes to establish under this legislation. We hope it will agree to those three amendments.

• (1640)

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The question will be on Motion No. 16 standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Regina West (Mr. Benjamin), the result of which will apply to Motion No. 17. Is it the please of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** All those in favour of the motion please say yea.

**Some Hon. Members:** Yea.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** All those opposed please say nay.

**Some Hon. Members:** Nay.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** In my opinion, the nays have it.

*And more than five Members having risen:*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Pursuant to Standing Order 114(11), the recorded division on the proposed motion stands deferred.

**Mr. Murphy:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I believe it is very evident in the present situation where you are hearing yeas and nays, that many of the nays are coming from behind the curtain.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Angus:** I was inside the curtain.

**Mr. Murphy:** I believe that if we have to vote in the House, it would be appropriate if Members were actually in the House. I suggest that if people are actually voting on motions that are before the House—and we are making every effort to move these amendments with due haste—that the people who wish to vote against these motions should at least have the courtesy to be in the House.

**Mr. Angus:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I want to make it very clear that when you were asking for the yeas and nays I was not behind the curtains. I did not participate in that. I came in to rise to call for a division. I want to assure those Members that we on this side are not doing something of which we are accusing them.