

my view that the committee should continue its discussions so long as it is felt that any worth-while information is obtainable, and that the resolution should not be disposed of meanwhile.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: That is right.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: It remains on the Order Paper.

The motion was agreed to.

TRANSITIONAL MEASURES ACT, 1947
CONTINUATION UNTIL MARCH 31, 1948

Hon. WISHART McL. ROBERTSON moved:

That, whereas section seven of the Continuation of Transitional Measures Act, 1947, being chapter sixteen of the Statutes of 1947, provides that subject as hereinafter provided, that act shall expire on the thirty-first day of December, one thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, if parliament meets during November or December, one thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, but if parliament does not so meet it shall expire on the sixtieth day after parliament first meets during the year one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight or on the thirty-first day of March, one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, whichever date is the earlier: Provided that, if at any time while that Act is in force, addresses are presented to the Governor General by the Senate and the House of Commons respectively, praying that that Act should be continued in force for a further period, not in any case exceeding one year, from the time at which it would otherwise expire and the Governor in Council so orders, that Act shall continue in force for that further period;

And whereas it is considered desirable to continue the said Act in force until the thirty-first day of March, one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight;

The following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency Field Marshal The Right Honourable Viscount Alexander of Tunis, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, upon whom has been conferred the Decoration of the Military Cross, one of His Majesty's Aides-de-Camp General and Commander-in-Chief in and over Canada.

May it Please Your Excellency:

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada, in parliament assembled, respectfully approach Your Excellency praying that the Continuation of Transitional Measures Act, 1947, be continued in force until the thirty-first day of March, one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight.

He said:

Honourable senators, the object of this resolution is to extend to March 31, 1948,

the Continuation of Transitional Measures Act, passed at the last session of parliament. This is the Act under which certain emergency powers, such as rent control and the remaining price controls, are continued in force. The necessity for extending the term of this measure for a further three-months' period arises from Section 7, which provides that the expiry date of the Act shall be December 31, 1947, if parliament meets before that time. Had parliament not been called before the end of the year the Act would have remained in force until March 31, 1948. All that this resolution does is to put back the expiry of the Act to the date on which it would have expired had parliament not met until the usual time in January. The period between now and the end of March, 1948, will give parliament an opportunity, after it re-assembles in the latter part of January, to consider a further extension of particular emergency powers, or any other proposals which may be placed before it for consideration.

Hon. T. A. CRERAR: May I ask, before the motion is put, whether it is anticipated that when parliament resumes legislation will be brought in to further extend the powers under this measure?

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: I am not in a position at this time to make any statement as to what measures may be brought forth. I am not clear as to what statement may have been made in another place with respect to that point, but I am under the impression that the Minister of Justice, in presenting this resolution, intimated that whatever might be continued would be incorporated into permanent legislation. I am only speaking from memory, but I think that is the purport of his remarks. I beg the indulgence of the house if I am wrong.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: That is what was said.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Could the honourable leader of the government give this house some idea of how much of the order-in-council legislation that was in force when we passed the extension measure of last session still remains in effect. I have a very clear recollection of the explanation given by the honourable senator from Vancouver South (Hon. Mr. Farris) when that measure was before us. He stated that the purpose of the extension was to allow the government a sufficient length of time to dispense with the orders in a methodical way, and I think he expressed the views of all of us when he said it was not desirable that legislation of such a nature be extended into peacetime. He expressed his