

not have to exert their maximum and most efficient efforts to achieve full and profitable operation.

The controls with which I am now dealing were imposed to smooth out and regulate our economy during the critical years of the war; and it is to the credit of those responsible, those usually referred to by the opposition as bureaucrats, that they did the job and did it well. We in Nova Scotia are proud to give a full share of this credit to the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Ilesley). Other countries seem much more appreciative of the results of Canada's programme of economic controls, and they are much more ready to acknowledge a job well done than many people within the dominion itself. The very factors which make controls necessary make them bothersome, because they restrict or restrain. In many cases individuals are required to make sacrifices for the over-all good; and by nature none of us likes to suffer more than is necessary.

The people of my constituency of Queens-Lunenburg are anxious to return to a free, uncontrolled economy at the earliest possible day, but they do not want to run any risks of having their present economy jeopardized. The control over the sale of lumber seems to draw more fire than any other, and I would request the minister concerned to give special consideration to the adjustment of the domestic retail price at the first opportunity. We are satisfied, however, that in general the government's policy of gradual decontrol is good. We are confident that, wherever possible, controls are being removed, when this can be done without endangering costs of living. This is clearly and abundantly evident more than ever, from the statement tabled this afternoon by the Minister of Finance.

One does not need to seek far for the basis of the government's policy in this matter of controls. It is a policy of common sense; it is one that will ensure the continuation of the sound economy which has been the envy of almost all foreign countries. We are satisfied that the authority this bill seeks, that is, to continue in effect a limited number of economic controls for a short period of time, is in the best interests of the country. What we want is orderly and gradual decontrol, and we are satisfied this government is doing just that.

I can tell this house, therefore, that the citizens of the constituency of Queens-Lunenburg are heartily in favour of this bill.

On motion of Mr. Macdonnell (Muskoka-Ontario) the debate was adjourned.

At eleven o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.

Wednesday, April 2, 1947

The house met at three o'clock.

### PRIVILEGE

MR. MATTHEWS—EMERGENCY POWERS BILL—  
OMISSION OF NAME FROM DIVISION  
LIST ON APRIL 1

Mr. J. E. MATTHEWS (Brandon): On a matter of privilege I wish to point out that neither in the *Votes and Proceedings* nor in yesterday's *Hansard* does my name appear as having voted in the vote which was taken yesterday. I was in my place, as I usually am, and I had no hesitation in voting to sustain your ruling, Mr. Speaker.

### NEWFOUNDLAND

DELEGATION FROM NATIONAL CONVENTION  
TO VISIT CANADA

Right Hon. L. S. ST. LAURENT (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I should like to inform the house that the national convention of Newfoundland recently passed a resolution expressing a desire to send a delegation to Ottawa to ascertain from the Canadian government what fair and equitable basis may exist for federal union of Canada and Newfoundland. The resolution requested the Governor of Newfoundland to inquire whether the Canadian government would receive a delegation for this purpose.

Through our high commissioner in St. John's, the government has now received this communication from the Governor of Newfoundland. We have replied that we shall be happy to receive a delegation from the national convention of Newfoundland at a mutually convenient date. We said that the Canadian government is of the opinion that the questions to be discussed with the delegation are of such complexity and of such significance for both countries that it is essential to have a complete and comprehensive exchange of information and a full and careful exploration by both parties of all the issues involved, so that an accurate appreciation of the position may be gained on each side.

Yesterday, upon being informed that the Canadian government is willing to receive a delegation, the national convention elected six of its members in addition to its chairman to serve on the delegation which, in due course, will proceed to Ottawa. The chairman of the national convention is the Honourable F. G. Bradley, K.C., and I understand that the other members elected are: Mr. T. G. W. Ashbourne; Mr. C. H. Ballam; the Reverend