

National Defence Act Amendment

next time this bill is before the committee, which may be next October.

Mr. Knowles: The Minister of National Defence suggested this last night and others of us have suggested it two or three times. If there is now unanimous agreement, let's do it.

Mr. McIlraith: There is no objection if the hon. member wishes to stand clause 2 and call clause 3.

The Chairman: Does the committee agree to allow clause 2 to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: The committee will now proceed to the consideration of clause 3.

Mr. Churchill: Rise and report progress.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): I called it six o'clock.

Mr. McIlraith: In order that there may be no embarrassment as to procedure, let me say that I did not intend in any way to cut off the speech of the hon. member who was speaking at six o'clock. If he wishes to continue his remarks on clause 2 I will put the suggestion forward again at the conclusion of his remarks. I will transmit the suggestion made by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre to my colleague the Minister of National Defence. It can be done in whichever way the hon. gentleman who was speaking wishes.

• (6:00 p.m.)

The Chairman: Order. Is it the suggestion of the Minister of Public Works that the hon. member for Acadia be permitted to conclude his remarks and that then clause 2 will stand?

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Chairman, my embarrassment is this: The hon. member for Acadia had the floor. He sat down on the assumption that it was six o'clock, but did not appear to have concluded his remarks. The suggestion then was made by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre that we stand clause 2 and proceed to clause 3. I agreed to that suggestion without realizing that by so doing I was cutting off the remarks of the hon. member for Acadia. I rose to explain my embarrassment in that regard. I had no intention to cut off the remarks of hon. member for Acadia.

I am agreeable either to have it understood that we still are on clause 2 until the hon. member completes his remarks or that clause 2 stand now. I am agreeable whichever way hon. members of the opposition wish to have it.

The Chairman: Order. As chairman, I should like the members of the committee to come to some very definite determination so that there will be no misunderstanding when the committee meets tomorrow or some other day.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): Mr. Chairman, I should like to proceed with the bill. I think that tomorrow I would take probably five or ten minutes to conclude my remarks on clause 2 and then we could go on to clause 3.

Mr. McIlraith: Then I take it that we are still on clause 2, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: The committee will still be on clause 2 when it meets again.

Progress reported.

It being five minutes after six o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.