

Government Organization Act, 1970

on the opposition side wish to have an opportunity to say a few words on the amendment. If this is not to be allowed, the Chair can only interpret it as a denial of permission to revert to clause 4, for which unanimous consent is required. So I shall ask the question again. Does the committee agree to revert to clause 4 for the purpose of allowing the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre to propose an amendment.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

On clause 4—*Deputy Minister*.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Chairman, I move:

That Bill C-207 be amended by designating clause 4 as sub-clause (1) of clause 4, and by inserting immediately thereafter the following sub-clause:

"(2) The deputy minister of the environment, when appointed under the provisions of subsection (1), is the deputy minister of fisheries."

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Chairman, this is virtually right back to where we started today and I re-submit the arguments I presented earlier to the President of the Treasury Board and the government. This amendment is consequential to the amendment we just voted on. If we are going to designate, as we have done, that the Minister of the Environment shall be the Minister of Fisheries, then it follows under clause 4 that the deputy minister of the environment shall also be the deputy minister of fisheries. One follows on the other and I think one is just as important as the other.

This afternoon the President of the Treasury Board indicated that the reason he would not accept this amendment was that there was no Department of Fisheries, that this new department of the environment would eliminate the Department of Fisheries. Be that as it may, the fact is that notwithstanding the provisions of this bill, which would eliminate the Department of Fisheries, under the provisions of the amendment we have just passed there is a Minister of Fisheries. Consequently, it follows that if there is a Minister of Fisheries he should have a deputy minister, and the deputy minister of the environment should be the deputy minister of fisheries. To me it is very logical. I submit that the government should be consistent and accept the amendment of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre. If the government does not see fit to accept the amendment now, I serve notice that the first opportunity I certainly will move the amendment on third reading.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall the amendment carry?

Some hon. Members: No.

Amendment (Mr. Knowles, Winnipeg North Centre) negatived: yeas, 13; nays, 35.

The Deputy Chairman: I declare the amendment lost. The committee will now revert to the study of clause 2.

On clause 2—*Short Title*.

The Deputy Chairman: When the committee was considering clause 2, the hon. member for St. John's East

[The Deputy Chairman.]

presented an amendment which I think should be read at this time to the committee. It was moved by Mr. McGrath:

That clause 2 of Bill C-207 be amended by striking out the words "Department of the Environment" where they first appear immediately after clause 1 on page 1 thereof, and substituting therefor the words "Department of Fisheries and the Environment".

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the committee, in the spirit of compromise that has been prevalent here tonight, would be agreeable to granting me unanimous consent to withdraw this amendment?

The Deputy Chairman: Does the committee agree to give permission to the hon. member to withdraw his amendment?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Amendment (Mr. McGrath) withdrawn.

• (10:10 p.m.)

The Deputy Chairman: Shall clause 2 carry?

Clause agreed to.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall schedule A carry?

Schedule agreed to.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall schedule B carry?

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Chairman, schedule B should carry, but I wish to say that it is a terrible practice to place in a schedule such as schedule B amendments not only repealing existing legislation but putting in amendments that do not deal with the legislation that is being amended. This is sloppy practice and I just want to warn the government not to do it again.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): The member for Peace River has expressed my sentiments exactly.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall schedule B carry?

Mr. Baldwin: On division.

Schedule agreed to.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall clause 1 carry?

Clause agreed to.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall the title carry?

Title agreed to.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall the bill as amended carry?

Some hon. Members: Carried.

Bill reported.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): When shall the said bill be read the third time?

Some hon. Members: Now.

Some hon. Members: Next sitting of the House.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): At the next sitting of the House.