

Business of the House

Mr. Sauv : I am not complaining about that, but I do not see how we could provide a regulation allowing an appeal from a decision of an administrative board. I think the general situation will apply to this board and I do not see why we should include a specific recourse in this case.

Mr. Danforth: Mr. Chairman, I was merely seeking information in this regard. Nothing has been spelled out and I wanted some clarification. If any course of action adopted by the board did work a hardship on any segment of the industry, there should be some recourse. I do not wish to quarrel with the minister this afternoon in this regard, but I wish to know whether or not there will be any course of redress or appeal to the board, the committee or the minister. I was merely seeking information, not asking for a specific indication in the bill.

● (6:00 p.m.)

Mr. MacDonald (Prince): Mr. Chairman, I do not like to belabour this point but I feel we are at the crucial point in this legislation, because unless the advisory committee has the kind of power I would expect it to have, the kind of thing we were talking about earlier in the day really will not become a fact of life with respect to the functioning of the board.

We have to be realistic with regard to the people who will make up the membership of the board. Whether the membership be one, three or five they will be closely related to, shall I call it, the civil service aspect of the administration, or they will at least be people who will be looking at this problem almost exclusively from the standpoint of economists or experts. On the advisory committee we expect people who will have a specific understanding of the problems that relate to different parts of the country, if we intend to administer this kind of program effectively. That is why I am extremely anxious to see that the advisory committee has the power necessary to do its job effectively.

For this reason I am sure that two or three things need to be added to this clause in order to make it specific enough that the advisory committee, the board and the minister will be fully cognizant of the role of each.

I should like to think, again, that we could add something to this clause which would suggest that the committee could examine those responsibilities which come within the purview of the board. In clause 15 (6) (a) we could perhaps delete the word "and" and include a provision to cover the committee dealing with matters of this sort. Then in respect of subparagraph (b) we could add, after the word "it", something to the effect that the board should publish from time to time such information as may seem useful to the general work of the board.

These two things would perhaps add something specific with regard to the functions of the board, because I think its staff and research facilities are crucial to the effectiveness of this program. The program will not be an easy one to carry out, as has been emphasized time and time again, without an advisory committee that really means something. I think we will be very much short-changed on the effectiveness of this board if we do not make this kind of provision.

Some hon. Members: Six o'clock.

Mr. Rapp: Mr. Chairman, if it will take another hour or two to finish consideration of this bill, why not call it six o'clock and we will continue our discussion of the bill next Tuesday.

Mr. Knowles: Six o'clock.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Rapp: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the acting house leader what the business will be for next Tuesday.

Mr. Pennell: Mr. Speaker, if there is an assumption of some reluctance to rise on my part, that assumption is correct. To the best of my knowledge, it is proposed to deal with the bill now before the house, namely Bill No. C-218. If this bill is disposed of, it might be a fair assumption that Bill No. C-227 would be called.

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