

(b) by adding, on the fourth page of Appendix A, immediately after amendment number 8, the following:

“8.1 Page 33, clause 56: Strike out subclauses 56(3) and (4) and renumber the remaining subclause accordingly.”

Honourable senators, I know that amending such a bill is very simple, and I am sure that everyone has grasped the meaning of my proposed amendments. If not, I will try to explain. Amendment 8, as contained in the appendix of the committee's report, does two things: one, it provides protection for existing fishermen's regulations—

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Honourable senator, you are moving the motion. Do I understand correctly that the seconder is the Honourable Senator Simard?

Senator Simard: No!

Senator Frith: You can think it over.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: It is moved by the Honourable Senator Thériault, seconded by the Honourable Senator Stewart,

That the Report be not now adopted but that it be amended

(a) by deleting, on the third page of Appendix A, the first three lines of amendment number 8 and substituting the following:—

Senator Frith: Dispense!

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion in amendment?

An Hon. Senator: Explain!

Senator Thériault: Honourable senators, I repeat, amendment 8, as contained in the appendix of the committee's report, does two things: one, it provides protection for existing fishermen's regulations. Proposed changes in regulations could be vetoed by Parliament under amendment No. 8. Two, the committee's amendment also strikes out subsection 130(4) of the UI Act. This subsection allows the government to terminate the entire fishermen's program by simple proclamation.

These are the two things that amendment 8 does. However, what it does not do is maintain government contributions for fishermen's benefits. Clause 53 of Bill C-21 says:

Subsection 130(3) of the said Act is repealed.

This subsection, 130(3), provides that the government must make up the difference between premiums paid by self-employed fishermen and the benefits paid to these fishermen. Clause 53 of Bill C-21 would end the government's contribution. The UI fund alone would be responsible for all benefits. My amendment, by striking out clause 53, would prevent the government from withdrawing its contribution. It would leave in place subsection 130(3) of the act.

I believe that answers your second question, Senator Tremblay.

• (1650)

The second part of my motion can be described as a consequential amendment. It would strike out subclauses 56(3) and (4) of Bill C-21.

Subclause 56(4) describes what will happen to fishermen's benefits and premiums once clause 53 comes into force and the government no longer contributes. Since my motion will not allow proposed clause 53 to come into force—since it will not allow the government to end its contributions—there is no necessity for subclause 56(4). In fact, this subclause would be inconsistent with how the bill would read should my motion be accepted.

Subclause 56(3), which I also propose to have removed from Bill C-21, is very similar to subclause 56(4), except that instead of dealing with fishermen's benefits it is conditional on the government's clause 52, which deals with government contributions for matters other than fishermen's benefits. Since the committee has recommended that the government continue making contributions to the UI fund, subclause 56(3) of the bill should be removed. This is another consequential amendment.

Honourable senators, thank you for your attention. I heartily recommend to all my colleagues, especially my colleagues on this side of the house, to support my amendments.

Some Hon. Senators: Question!

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: It is moved by the Honourable Senator Thériault, seconded by the Honourable Senator Stewart, that the report be not now adopted but that it be amended—Do you wish to dispense?

Senator Frith: Yes.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion in amendment?

Some Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Some Hon. Senators: No.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Those in favour please say yea.

Some Hon. Senators: Yea.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Those opposed please say nay.

Some Hon. Senators: Nay

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: In my opinion, the yeas have it.

Motion in amendment adopted, on division.

[Translation]

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE—DEBATE RESUMED

Hon. Jean-Maurice Simard: Honourable senators, now that we have reverted to the main motion, and considering Senator Thériault's speech which we have just heard, I would like to make the following comments. First of all, as far as I am concerned, Bill C-21 proposes an unemployment insurance