

Transportation

the Crowsnest rates and all consequent and ancillary provisions would apply.

Under section 38 of the Railway Act the government can direct a reference to the new transport commission envisaged under clause 74. I say this quite sincerely, because I think a proper case can be made out for what I say. The government can direct an inquiry and if the transport commission as a result of the inquiry comes to the conclusion that the rates are not compensatory, that something ought to be done about them, the matter comes back to parliament. This has nothing to do with the point of order but I suggest to the minister that if his amendment is ruled out of order the position is not hopeless. There is a way out and that way I have suggested.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): Mr. Chairman, if I may add a word on the point of order I wish to say something about the amendment to clause 74 proposed by the minister. I will not go into details about the rules as they have already been dealt with by others more able than I am. I say to you, sir, that you will be in difficulty if you accept this amendment as proper. The committee has already voted on the question of a review of the Crowsnest pass rates and has decided not to permit such a review. If the amendment before the committee is accepted as being in order it could mean that an amendment could be proposed to it and the committee once again could vote on the very question it decided last Wednesday. If this happens we can see that on other pieces of legislation there will be amendments to amendments to amendments, and votes on votes. In fact, this would destroy our parliamentary procedure in committee.

If the minister wishes this amendment to be accepted he should alter subsection 2 of section 470, which reads as follows:

Subject to subsection (3), a railway company under the jurisdiction of parliament may make an application to the commission to investigate the revenues and costs attributable to the carriage of any commodity—

After the words "any commodity" he should add "other than grain under the Crowsnest pass rates".

Mr. Woolliams: I agree.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): The committee has already ruled on the question before it and it cannot be introduced again. If the minister is worried about other statutory rates all he has to do is include the words "other than grain under the Crowsnest pass rates" after "any commodity" in subsection 2.

Surely he knows the difficulty the committee will be in if this amendment is included in the bill. It will make a mockery of procedure. We ruled out by the vote last Wednesday a specific review of a specific statutory rate. The minister now wants to widen the base for a review. Other members have said that there is provision for that under clauses 15 and 38. This amendment is not necessary. It must be ruled out of order or the whole procedure in committees of parliament will be made a mockery. I urge you, sir, to rule the amendment out of order until such time as the minister redrafts it.

Mr. Pickersgill: Two or three points have been made and I feel I ought to say something about them. Perhaps I can deal with the point made by the hon. member for Peace River first. He suggested we might solve all problems by dropping clause 50. The hon. gentleman obviously has not read the last few pages of *Hansard* for last evening, because clause 50 has been adopted. In the argument he advances today he would ask the committee to reverse a decision already taken.

Mr. Baldwin: By unanimous consent.

Mr. Pickersgill: We could have the committee by unanimous consent accept my clause, which is as easy as reversing clause 50. I am not the least impressed by the hon. member's point.

Before dealing with anything else I must deal with a point raised by the hon. member for Medicine Hat because it has troubled me. The hon. member suggested that because these references to grain were in section 329, or whatever the appropriate section number is, an amendment might not be necessary. To clear that point I might say that the new section 328 adopted yesterday deals with grain and flour, including flaxseed, to Vancouver, Prince Rupert, Fort William and Churchill, and no place else. We have added Churchill to the statutory rates. Under section 371, rapeseed is included, to Vancouver Prince Rupert, Fort William and Churchill.

Under section 471 there are a number of other grain products which are not in the present statutes of Canada at all but are simply determined by orders of the board or decisions of the railway. We want them in the bill; we want them put into the law. They are grain and flour, including flaxseed and rapeseed, to Victoria, New Westminster and to Armstrong, and grain products to all delivery points specified in all these various categories. I think these are essential and therefore I