

Private Bills

the matter seem to think they can discuss it and make the final decision at Edmonton.

We are dealing with an organization of fraternal members, benevolent members, members who belong to the beneficial side of an insurance company. They have the right to make the decision and use the machinery with which they are provided. This is not being allowed them. This article continues:

Between now and Edmonton High Court every member should ask "Why was full information as to the effect of these proposed changes not sent out to the courts?"

"What right has the executive to call a meeting to change our charter act, etc., if they do not know what these motions will do to the Order?"

All should ask—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Richard): Order. I regret to advise the hon. member that his time has expired. The hon. member for Spadina (Mr. Ryan).

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, could I ask the indulgence of hon. members to put on the record just a few more remarks made by the Brantford council, because I think it is important and I may be the only one who has this information?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Richard): Has the hon. member the consent of the house to do this?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Richard): The hon. member for Spadina.

Mr. Peters: You don't want information, eh?

Mr. S. Perry Ryan (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, this bill, S-18, should not be impeded in its course, particularly because it is going to committee in the customary way. This is a simple rearrangement and is being made, as I see it, strictly for the purposes of convenience.

Mr. Peters: The convenience of whom?

Mr. Ryan: An Ontario charter will be replaced by a federal charter. It is a simple matter of rearrangement. My hon. friends across the way, despite all the verbiage, are simply making, I submit, a very large mountain out of a very few small molehills. There is every thing to be said for the passage of this bill. I think it has been said pretty well by the hon. member for Peel South (Mr.

[Mr. Peters.]

Chappell). I am assured by the hon. member for Peel South that he has sworn declarations in his file which prove that all the necessary legal proceedings of the company were carried out with propriety in this connection.

We have the further assurance of legal counsel in this respect. An Order of this size, and as responsible as it is, would not attempt to put through a rearrangement of this kind without proper legal advice. The hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Schreyer) must realize that the other place must have been thoroughly satisfied in this respect.

There are across Canada 40,000 members of the society affected by this measure. I understand that about one-third of them are in the province of Ontario. The head office of the Order is in Brantford, Ontario. The strange thing is that Mr. Mitro Makarchuk, the N.D.P. member of the Ontario provincial legislature from Brantford, sponsored the first part of this rearrangement by helping process the necessary bill through the Ontario legislature. In fact, he led it through.

An hon. Member: Shame.

Mr. Ryan: So what goes on in this connection? Does the Socialist, two-headed, fire-breathing dragon, not know what is happening? Does one head not know what is going on in the other head? Why this quibbling by the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Schreyer) and the hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters) with regard to such a routine matter? Are there subsequent bills that the hon. members opposite are trying to block? Is this the answer? Why this filibuster? This is the kind of ploy which makes one wonder just what kind of marbles rattle around in the noggin of a Socialist. This bill should be sent to committee without further ado.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I listened very attentively to the hon. member for Spadina (Mr. Ryan). I heard the very best reason one could possibly hear from him as to why we should not proceed with this bill—the simple question of the difference of opinion as to whether things were, or were not, done properly.

Mr. Ryan: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Howard (Skeena): I would be very happy to accept a question.

Mr. Ryan: Does the difference of opinion exist between the federal arm of the N.D.P. and the Ontario arm of the N.D.P.?