

before the committee, were made in 1856. These were the latest charts to be used in respect of the Grand Bank off Newfoundland.

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. It being ten o'clock, it is my duty—

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. We have heard some excellent speeches tonight and I am wondering if it is possible for the committee to continue for a few minutes in order to conclude the committee stage. We could then go on to third reading tomorrow.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Deputy Chairman: The committee can only sit beyond ten o'clock by unanimous consent.

Mr. Baldwin: That is what I am suggesting.

The Deputy Chairman: Does the committee agree that I do not see the clock at this time, for the purpose of completing committee of the whole stage on this bill?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Chairman, the fact is that this can only be done on the understanding that we will have a further opportunity to make some remarks, and that the Secretary of State for External Affairs will reply at some stage.

An hon. Member: Oh, sit down.

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Lundrigan: That is the only condition on which I will give unanimous consent.

The Deputy Chairman: There has to be unanimous consent on the general proposition, without any condition. It is difficult for the Chair to judge whether the minister will speak, so if there is unanimous consent the committee must definitely make up its mind at this time. If that is the case, I will not see the clock and we can carry on.

Mr. Lundrigan: Will the Chair indicate when this matter will be before the House again following conclusion of the committee stage? Will there be an opportunity for further debate?

The Deputy Chairman: There will be third reading stage when all members can again speak and ask questions.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Question.

The Deputy Chairman: Is the committee ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

• (10:00 p.m.)

The Deputy Chairman: The question is on the amendment of Mr. Drury to subclause 2 of Clause 3. Does the amendment carry?

Government Organization Act, 1970

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Amendment (Mr. Drury) agreed to.

Clause as amended agreed to.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that there has been consent to reconsider some aspects of the departmental situation, I wonder whether there might also be consent to the reopening of clause 4 so that my amendment could be called in respect of the naming of the deputy minister of the environment as the deputy minister of fisheries. In speaking for this group I can say that if consent is given and the amendment allowed, it could be voted on without any debate.

The Deputy Chairman: The committee has heard the proposal of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre. Is there consent to revert to clause 4 for the purpose of allowing the hon. member to move an amendment.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, I understand that if we open it up, the amendment will be moved and the question put immediately.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): So far as we are concerned, that would be the situation. No debate would be held on the amendment.

Mr. McGrath: No. Mr. Chairman. I think there should be provision for at least one response from the official opposition, because when I started my remarks on this stage of our proceedings I suggested to the minister that there should be a consequential amendment to clause 4. I think the suggestion of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, that he should receive consent to move his amendment now and that remarks should be confined to his amendment, is most unsatisfactory.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): We will agree to that. I thought the hon. member had made the point and that we had also done so earlier in this debate. Even so, if an opportunity is given to the hon. member to speak we will not ask to do so. We just wish to move the amendment.

Mr. Drury: What we had hoped was that in a relatively short time we could deal with the balance of the bill, which is basically schedules and so on. Earlier I indicated the government's position in relation to an amendment relating to the deputy minister of fisheries in response to the hon. member for St. John's East. While the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre is very persuasive, I do not think he has succeeded in persuading me that we should reverse our position. If there should be a question on it, I think the government would vote against it. If it is a matter of seeking unanimous consent and then having an adverse vote, perhaps we should without unanimous consent and not proceed.

The Deputy Chairman: The Chair finds itself in a somewhat confusing position at this time, because it is difficult to establish whether or not there has been unanimous agreement to the proposition the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre has put forward. Some members