

*Supply—Northern Affairs*

phone Company before us. On each and every occasion when we opened our questioning by suggesting that possibly the majority of the ownership of the company rested outside of Canada, there was a great show of indignation. We were insulting them by even suggesting that it was not a bona fide Canadian company. After hours, and I can remember one occasion when it took a number of days, the officials of the company were forced, most reluctantly, to admit that the main controls of this company were vested outside of Canada. No Canadian company likes to admit it is not master of its own house, but is a mere appendage of an international cartel.

I can appreciate why the B.C. Telephone officials like to hide the real ownership and real control of the company. I believe that the amendment commends itself to the serious consideration of this house. If the members of this committee take the minister at his word and really believe that this legislation is intended to reveal to the government and to the people of Canada, the extent of foreign ownership and control of companies in Canada, then I fail to see how they can, in good conscience, oppose the amendment now before us. In my opinion if they oppose the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Hull, then they are making a liar out of the minister and they are saying that they do not believe that the minister meant what he said when he introduced this legislation in the first place.

**Mr. Fulton:** It is not always easy to anticipate precisely the information the committee will be wanting, and I confess not to have anticipated some of it. I had a lot of other information, some of which I have given. I have sent out for further information and I am now in a position to advise the committee that the board of transport commissioners does know the extent of foreign ownership of the telephone companies, and that every time an application is filed for a change of rates, further special returns are made reporting the percentage of their shares held in Canada and abroad. That applies to the B.C. Telephone Company and the Bell Telephone Company. I am also informed, on the basis of information provided to the board, that Canadian control has been increased in recent years.

**Mr. Regier:** May I ask the minister how many employees the transport board has who have any knowledge or experience in the field of telephones?

**Mr. Fulton:** I am sure I could not say at the present time.

**Mr. Regier:** I would submit that there is not one.

**Mr. Fulton:** That undoubtedly is the hon. member's opinion, but he is not always right.

**Mr. Howard:** Neither are you.

Amendment (Mr. Caron) negatived: Yeas, 18; nays, 28.

*During the taking of the vote:*

**The Deputy Chairman:** I should point out to hon. members who were not in when the vote was called that they will have to remain outside the House of Commons while the vote is being counted.

*After the taking of the vote:*

Schedule agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported.

**Mr. Speaker:** When shall the bill be read a third time?

**Mr. Fulton:** By leave now.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** No, next sitting.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance):** Before the house takes up the next order of business I wonder if I might have leave of the house to revert to motions for the purpose of acquainting the house with an announcement.

**Mr. Chevrier:** If the announcement is going to be what I think it is, then there will be no objection.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Make it short.

**Mr. Speaker:** Has the Minister of Finance leave to revert to motions?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**THE BUDGET**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRESENTATION ON TUESDAY,  
APRIL 10

**Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance):** I wish to inform the house that, barring unforeseen occurrences, and if it is the pleasure of the house, I hope to introduce the budget on Tuesday evening next, April 10, at eight o'clock.

**SUPPLY**

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Chown in the chair.

DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN AFFAIRS AND  
NATIONAL RESOURCES

728. Canadian wildlife service—wildlife resources conservation and development, including administration of the Migratory Birds Convention Act—further amount required, \$27,000.