

Government Orders

The hon. member mentioned the inclusion of an amendment dealing with the Canadian Wheat Board. We have a letter from the Canadian Wheat Board indicating it is in favour of Bill C-54 as proposed by the committee and as reported to the House. I would table that letter as evidence of their support for the bill.

We have made all attempts to keep Bill C-54 general so that it does not in any way interfere with the legislation that enables marketing boards and the Canadian Wheat Board to carry out their duties on behalf of producers. Even though we in the committee overruled the chairman on the inclusion of that one particular amendment, we felt it was required for Canadian wheat producers to have check-offs so they may along with other groups across Canada have funds to promote their products. That is the intent of the whole bill. It is enabling legislation. We have tried to keep it general and simple so it will not interfere with other aspects of the marketing agencies in Canada.

Mr. Lyle Vanclief (Prince Edward—Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I too would like to make a couple of comments. I look forward like some of the speakers before me to your comments on the handling of Bill C-54 as it was handled at the committee. I have not been here as long as many members in the House. It was my understanding when a bill came to the committee it was to be dealt with as that bill and we could not go back to the parent piece of legislation and change that at committee. There were some amendments put by the government at committee stage which did do that and I look forward to your comments.

As a colleague has said, the bill has not been printed. I personally do not think that is fair. Maybe that is not a very good choice of words but there are many people who really were not able to be at committee and followed as closely as they could. They look forward to seeing how the bill is printed when it comes back to the House at report stage. We just do not have that today. I repeat again that I look forward to how that should be dealt with as far as Bill C-54 is concerned.

Mr. Speaker: This matter was raised a few minutes ago by the hon. member for Mackenzie, commented upon by the hon. member for Algoma, and I heard a colleague, the hon. member for Elgin, and of course the hon. member for Prince Edward Hastings. I think the first thing I should make clear to the House is that whatever has been done was done by the committee, not by the government. I think it is important to keep that in mind.

I have had notice of this, and I am very grateful to hon. members for ensuring that I have been given some indication of what the concerns are. I will try very hard to return to the House after three o'clock with a ruling.

I want to say to all of the members who have spoken in the last few minutes that I thank each one of them for their intervention and contribution.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact that you will need some time to consider the arguments and make your ruling, I think you would find that we are prepared to move to Bill C-33 at this time to allow you the time to make your ruling.

Mr. Speaker: I want to thank the hon. parliamentary secretary who also has been very helpful in this matter.

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COASTING TRADE ACT**MEASURE TO ENACT**

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-33, an act respecting the use of foreign ships and non-duty paid ships in the coasting trade, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Transport.

Mr. Angus: Mr. Speaker, we only received notice at about 5.15 p.m. yesterday afternoon that Bill C-33 was going to be brought forward. As a result of that and discussions between opposition parties and the government, we were not in a position to have tabled our amendments in the normal manner.

I would seek consent of the House, on behalf of all sides, to allow us to put those motions before you today.

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed?