

*Labour Conditions*

sovereign, St. John the Baptist day, Dominion day, Labour day, Thanksgiving day, Remembrance day, Christmas day.

Remembrance day and St. John the Baptist day were left out in subparagraph (f) of clause 2 of Bill No. C-126.

Why does not the Minister of Labour give the federal employees exactly the same legal holidays as those we voted for the House of Commons? Parliamentary employees will get them. Why should not all federal employees get them, since that proposal was passed by the house last week?

Mr. Speaker, I will not speak any longer on the bill at this stage. We will have another opportunity to do so at the committee stage.

However, I will say this: We hope Social Credit will establish a labour policy which will enable workers to feel, at last, that they are citizens in the economic context of their country. We should respect the human person and realize he is an important individual.

Let us put science, progress, machinery, automation, in short, all new inventions, at the service of each and every Canadian citizen. I believe we would then be rendering service not only to the worker but also to labour unions and to the Canadian people generally, because the purchasing power would be increased considerably. This purchasing power should not be unduly increased without taking the country's economy and production into account, but it should be based on what Canada can produce by means of all this science which is at our service and which should benefit the whole of the Canadian people.

I am convinced that every Canadian would then enjoy economic security and his individual liberty would also be assured and respected.

[Text]

**Mr. Steven Otto (York East):** Mr. Speaker, the minister has received many accolades from all corners of the house regarding this bill. Everyone is welcoming the bill and is happy with it. May I say I also am happy with it, subject to what I will have to say in a little while. But more than anything else I do want to say that the page boys are very happy with the bill, and I hope that when the minister spoke about the young people under 17 and said his department was so anxious to make sure that young people carried on with their education he was thinking of the page boy who brought him his glass of water. Between yourself, Mr. Speaker, and the minister I hope we are finally going

[Mr. Caouette.]

to bring in some decent regulations for these boys so that they will not have to work 11½ to 12 hours a day.

**Mr. Orlikow:** They are not covered by the bill either.

**Mr. Otto:** Well, I hope they will be. Bill No. C-126 is a nice neat little bill.

I was particularly interested in the minister's description of this measure as being legislation which will break new ground. I hope that he will not create the impression in the minds of the people across this country that this measure represents the reform promised by the Liberal party. I think the minister was much more accurate in his conclusion that this legislation was in accord with accepted practice, because I think in reality that is what it is.

I was pleased to note that the minister said new legislation will be forthcoming which will in fact be complementary to this measure, and truly legislation of reform. I am sure that following the presentation of that complementary legislation we will be in a position to assert that this party is truly a party of reform and that we are facing the issues which beset labour. I have no doubt that this bill does fulfil the promise made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson), but I disagree with the hon. member for Hamilton East (Mr. Munro) when he suggests that this measure will also fulfil the promises made by the Liberal party. There is a far greater promise to be met in respect of the reform promised by this party. That promise as it relates to the Department of Labour has not as yet been fulfilled, and will remain outstanding until that time when the minister introduces what he has referred to as complementary legislation in connection with labour standards.

**Mr. Brewin:** Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member permit a question? I should be very interested to hear the hon. member outline the details in connection with this complementary legislation and reform in this field which should be carried out.

**Mr. Otto:** Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to the hon. member that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) indicated the direction in which this reform might move. The hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) indicated that automation was creating a problem that keeps many people across this nation awake at nights wondering what is going to happen. I am sure most of us will agree with him in that regard. None of the members in that corner of this house, or