

*Railway Operations Act*

about the problem we are facing, I cannot imagine why the hon. member for Selkirk cannot get the attention of the Committee and the courtesy of those present.

**Mr. Rowland:** I thank the hon. member for Ottawa West for his intervention on my behalf. It is very kind of him. However, it is fairly obvious that it is difficult to get the attention of the Committee at 1.30 in the morning after we have gone through such a process as this. I certainly cannot fault my colleagues, but I had something I wanted to say. I am sick at heart. With full knowledge of what is going to happen to it, I am moving the following amendment.

That subclause (1) of clause 9 of Bill C-217 be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

(1) The terms and conditions of each collective agreement to which this Part applies are amended forthwith by increasing each hourly basic rate of wages in effect on December 31, 1972, as established by or pursuant to such an agreement, by ten and eight-tenths per cent effective January 1, 1973, and by increasing each hourly basic rate of wages in effect on December 31, 1973, as established by or pursuant to such agreement and pursuant to this part, by ten and eight-tenths per cent effective January 1, 1974.

**Some hon. Members:** Question!

**Mr. Gleave:** I know the hour is early, Mr. Chairman, but the Committee decided some hours ago to complete consideration of the question this day. The Committee at that time was fully aware of the nature of the decision the Committee would be required to make, and to interrupt an hon. member who has the floor, and interject with catcalls when he seeks to propose an amendment and put his case is not only rude, not only disorderly, but ill-advised.

It just so happens that there are a large number of people in my constituency who run trains. Somebody, at some time, should talk to some of these people. My hon. friend made the point that there is no comparison between railway productivity now and productivity some years ago. Just look at the number of units which are hooked on to these diesels that head west across Alberta, through the canyon and into British Columbia. I have talked to these men and they tell me that such is the length of freight trains today that sometimes they cannot see how to switch them through a siding and know they are safely operating those trains. We should be concerned to see that the railroads are giving consideration to the safety of these men and ensuring that they are adequately paid.

● (0130)

We should be concerned about making sure that the railway companies for which they are working are giving consideration to the safety of these men, and to seeing that they are adequately paid. We must remember that they are subject to call at all hours of the night and day. They do not have a comfortable job which starts at 8.30 or 9.00 in the morning and ends at five o'clock at night. With the job that these men are doing there is not the regular family life that so many of us take for granted. I think this should be taken into consideration by members of this committee. I support the plea and the proposal of my colleague.

**The Assistant Deputy Chairman:** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

[Mr. Reilly.]

**The Assistant Deputy Chairman:** All those in favour will please rise.

Amendment (Mr. Rowland) negatived; Yeas 21, nays 155.

**The Assistant Deputy Chairman:** I declare the amendment lost.

Clause 13 agreed to.

On Clause 14—*Railway companies and unions to negotiate.*

**Mr. Howard:** I was not rising to speak, Mr. Chairman. I just thought you were rushing a bit and I wanted to give the Minister of Labour a chance to speak.

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** Mr. Speaker, I have an amendment I should like to have moved to Clause 14, which is as follows:

That Bill C-217 be amended by adding thereto, immediately after the heading "GENERAL" on page 10, the following heading and section:

"Layoffs

14.1 Forthwith upon the coming into force of this Act,

(a) every railway company to which any Part of this Act applies shall call back to work every employee of the railway company who has been on strike or has been laid off as a consequence of any strike that has ceased to be valid by reason of the coming into force of this Act; and

(b) no such employee shall be laid off or again be laid off by any such railway company as a consequence of any such strike."

**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):** What about employees returning to work, what guarantee have you in that regard?

**The Assistant Deputy Chairman:** Order, please. The committee has heard the amendment.

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Chairman, I should like to move that amendment.

**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):** Let us be in order.

**The Assistant Deputy Chairman:** Shall the amendment carry?

**Some hon. Members:** Carried.

Amendment (Mr. MacEachen) agreed to.

**The Assistant Deputy Chairman:** Shall Clause 14 as amended carry?

**Some hon. Members:** Carried.

Clause 14 as amended agreed to.

**The Assistant Deputy Chairman:** Perhaps we might have order, please. I know the hour is late and there seem to be too many children around right now, but I would ask for order.

On Clause 15—*Appointment of mediator.*

**Mr. Alexander:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to make one or two remarks in respect of this clause dealing with the