

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has already spoken. Do I understand he wants to ask a question?

Mr. Benjamin: I wish to ask the minister whether it is correct that for the purposes of this legislation, and this legislation only, the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission is the only body that has any authority to implement the legislation and that the Canadian Transport Commission has none whatsoever.

Mr. Jamieson: In the context in which the hon. member has asked the question, that is correct. However, as I pointed out a few moments ago, we are providing through the filing of the documents with the Canadian Transport Commission that they have detailed background information through the operation of this measure. In that way they can relate it to the other non-conference activities. I think that this combination, as I outlined it, with the powers reposing in the Combines Investigation Act, achieves our purposes in so far as it is possible for us to achieve them.

The government has never indicated total satisfaction with this measure. We have indicated that by providing in the bill that it has to be reviewed within a three year period. I think that the arguments that have been put forward during the earlier debate and in committee show that there is a necessity for this form of exemption, although in the long run this perhaps is not the most desirable approach if one takes the unilateral or individual Canadian requirements into consideration.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I ask the minister if there is any obligation on the Canadian Transport Commission which receives these documents to refer them to the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission to see whether there has been any collusion with respect to rates and other matters. Is it left entirely to the discretion of the Canadian Transport Commission or is it left to the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission by separate research to get this information for themselves?

Mr. Jamieson: Without going into the bill in detail, I hope the hon. member will appreciate I am relying on memory, I do not recall what might be described as legal requirements on the Canadian Transport Commission in the manner that has been outlined. At the same time, I think it is implicit in the legislation. I do not think there

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would be any likelihood of their retaining that information for themselves. There are many many areas in which the Canadian Transport Commission and other agencies operate where they do not have the legal requirement to pass along information or to comment to another agency. It is certainly common practice that they do so. I certainly anticipate this will be the way in which the Commission will function.

Mr. Skoberg: Will the minister permit a further question? Will the minister indicate what machinery has been set up within the Canadian Transport Commission to handle the filing of this type of material and, in particular, what machinery has been set up to ensure that any incidents of collusion by the conference will be submitted to the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission under the Combines Investigation Act?

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, I have to say to the hon. member that the Canadian Transport Commission would never deem or think about anticipating Parliament.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Jamieson: Therefore, it is obvious until such time as this measure goes through—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Jamieson:—it would be quite improper for them—

Mr. Speaker: I remind hon. members that we are not in committee of the whole at the present time. Questions directed to the minister have been answered. If there are no further contributions, the question might be put. Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said amendment?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: All those in favour will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.