St. Lawrence Seaway Authority Act

Mr. Marler: I take it certainly that the Canadian railways would be glad to have any alternative business that may be around. After all, it is principally a matter of moving traffic from Cornwall to Ottawa.

Resolution reported and concurred in.

Mr. Marler thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 447, to amend the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority Act.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When shall this bill be read the second time?

Mr. Green: Mr. Speaker, if we could have a look at the bill during the dinner recess it probably could be dealt with at eight o'clock.

Mr. Marler: Mr. Speaker, I much appreciate the offer of the hon. member for Vancouver-Quadra and I will see if it is not possible to send him a copy of the bill. As I said, the bill is in the same terms as the resolution itself.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Second reading will take place later this day.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

Hon. George C. Marler (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I move that this bill be read the second time.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Robinson (Simcoe East) in the chair.

On clause 1—Authority may construct bridge over Pollys Gut or over the south channel.

Mr. Nesbitt: Assuming that this legislation passes, as would appear will happen, can the minister tell us when a decision will be arrived at to commence either one of the two bridges proposed?

Mr. Marler: Last Thursday there was a meeting between the Hon. Mr. Chevrier and the other members of the St. Lawrence seaway authority and Mr. Lewis Castle, president of the United States Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, at which it was agreed that they should proceed with the building of the high level highway bridge over the south channel if parliament took the necessary action to approve this change in

the powers of the St. Lawrence seaway authority. I know of no reason to believe that there has been any change in the thinking either of the St. Lawrence seaway authority or of the United States Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

Mr. Nesbitt: Will any legislation be required to be passed by the United States government?

Mr. Marler: My understanding is that no legislation is required.

Clause agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

INCOME TAX ACT

The house resumed, from Monday, July 30, consideration in committee of Bill No. 418, to amend the Income Tax Act—Mr. Harris—Mr. Robinson (Simcoe East) in the chair.

On clause 1.

Mrs. Fairclough: Mr. Chairman, last night when we were discussing this clause the minister answered a question with regard to uniforms and stated that uniforms for firemen and policemen were not considered by the tax department. I wonder if he would tell us what other classifications of employees are allowed uniforms other than the armed forces?

Hon. W. E. Harris (Minister of Finance): I am not aware of any persons other than those in the armed forces who are given clothing as part of their payment and who are charged for it.

Mrs. Fairclough: There are other persons who obviously must wear uniforms in the performance of their duties, such as waiters, waitresses and musicians. Why are those people not given consideration with regard to uniforms when firemen, policemen and members of the armed forces are?

Mr. Harris: I suppose this is one of those questions the hon. member has in mind with respect to so-called self-employed persons as compared with those who are employed by others?

Mrs. Fairclough: Not necessarily.

Mr. Harris: Where an employer provides clothing and it is on a minor scale such as we have discussed it would not be a matter of concern in taxation. On the other hand, if an employer who was the owner of a restaurant required that the waiters wear a certain kind of clothing while working in his restaurant but did not provide it, I presume that that person would be a free agent to take the

[Mr. Nesbitt.]