

offices of other members at this end of the house.

I am not going to take the time to go further into this matter. This man sought the assistance of the primate of the Anglican Church of Canada and other prominent persons in Montreal. At the time he brought the case to the attention of the members of the house the President of the Privy Council was then assistant deputy minister of justice. I for one feel very sorry about the circumstances surrounding this case. This man is very concerned that he be given an opportunity to obtain justice by presenting further evidence. He claims there has been perjury, wrongdoing and so on, on the part of various officials appointed under the superintendent of bankruptcy. In conclusion, I would ask whether the minister would give this unfortunate man an opportunity again to present his case to him or his appropriate officials.

The Chairman: Order. It being five o'clock and in order that the house may proceed to the consideration of private members' business, it is my duty to rise, report progress, and request leave to sit again later this day or at the next sitting of the house, as the case may be.

Progress reported.

• (5:00 p.m.)

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker I move, that the house continue sitting this day until twelve o'clock midnight.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): I oppose that, Mr. Speaker. Ten members rise. It is out.

An hon. Member: Where is the co-operation?

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, in view of the failure of the motion to carry, I wonder if hon. members would be willing to waive private members' hour and continue with the estimates until six o'clock?

Mr. Churchill: In answer to that, we think we should go on now with private members' hour. Three times this week private members' hour has been passed over. The situation that the government got into today was of its own making, not ours.

Mr. McIlraith: I cannot let that remark go, Mr. Speaker. I think that the house leader of the official opposition, on mature reflection,

Unemployment Insurance Act

will wish that he had not made that remark because it is not in accordance with the facts. He must accept his share of the responsibility, and the official opposition must accept their share of their responsibility.

Mr. Churchill: I have reflected, and I stand by what I said.

[Translation]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, we agree to the request of the government house leader so that the debate on the Department of Justice estimates may go on until six o'clock.

Mr. Speaker: Order. As there is not unanimous consent, the house will now proceed to consideration of private members' business.

• (5:10 p.m.)

[English]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE FOR EMPLOYEES IN AGRICULTURE

Mr. Reynold Rapp (Humboldt-Melfort-Tisdale) moved the second reading of Bill No. C-59, to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act (agricultural employees' coverage).

He said: Over the years, more and more employees have been covered by unemployment insurance. There is only one segment of our working population which is not presently covered, and that is agricultural and farm labour. I have presented my views on this subject on more than one occasion before standing committees and in the house itself.

This spring there is likely to be a severe shortage of farm labour. The main reason farm units are unable to get labourers to work on their crops is because agricultural workers are not covered by unemployment insurance as are other workers. In 1962 the Gill report was presented, late in the fall, to the Conservative government of that day. We were not able to debate it because early in 1963 an election was called. As a result the report was not adopted or implemented. I should like to draw attention to one of the recommendations in this report which states that farm labour should be included within the terms of the Unemployment Insurance Act, provided administrative difficulties can be overcome.

Four years have gone by and no action has been taken either by this parliament or by its predecessor. I should like to stress this point: If ever there was a time when farm labour