

Air Pollution

should like to bring to the attention of hon. members the fact that we must not leave the impression nothing has been done in respect of industrial pollution in this country.

In the last five years every provincial government has taken some very definite forward steps in controlling the pollution of the air, by sulphur dioxide nitrites and hydrogen sulphides. You will notice that many of our refineries located in the larger cities in Canada are today recovering elemental sulphur from the pollutant gases that were originally allowed to escape into the atmosphere. I make this statement because I feel we have to support industrial development, and to leave the house today with the impression that nothing is being done in connection with air and water pollution under the industrial development program undertaken in Canada would not be accurate. It is not accurate to say that nothing is being done in this regard or in respect of proper sewage disposal.

Every province is making great efforts to control pollution. Millions of dollars are being spent in the Dominion of Canada today in this regard. It might be interesting to note that in the United States in 1968 over \$450 million was spent on research in respect of control of air pollution, particularly with reference to solutions—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

A message was delivered by Major C. R. Lamoureux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Right Hon. Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable house in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, with the house went up to the Senate chamber.

• (6:00 p.m.)

And being returned:

Mr. Speaker informed the house that the Deputy Governor General had been pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bills:

An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1969.

Mr. Speaker: The house will now resume the business which was interrupted at five o'clock.

[Mr. Smerchanski.]

GOVERNMENT ORDERS**GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION**

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FORESTRY, AND OTHER NEW DEPARTMENTS

The house resumed consideration in committee of Bill C-173, respecting the organization of the government of Canada and matters relating or incidental thereto—Mr. Trudeau—Mr. Béchard in the Chair.

The Deputy Chairman: It being six o'clock I do now leave the chair.

At 6.07 p.m. the committee took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The Committee resumed at 8 p.m.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Chairman, in the short time during which I spoke before the committee rose at five o'clock I recalled the statement by the Postmaster General that he agreed with his colleague the Minister of Labour in accepting the basic principles expounded by Mr. Justice Freedman. I said the Postmaster General probably agrees with every word of what was said in the Freedman Report as long as it is not applied to the Post Office.

If the Freedman Commission made any recommendation, it was that no employer should make major changes in working conditions affecting employees in the absence of consultation and agreement. I submit that the new proposals put forward by the Post Office, headed by this great minister, amount to such a major change. For a long time postal workers were able to return from their postal walks to the post office for their lunch and then go back to their walks. The time they spent travelling was counted as part of their work day. In many cases I suggested the time thus spent amounted to as much as an hour each day. In deciding that this practice should cease the department is making a major change in working conditions.

When the Post Office Department decides that letter carriers who have had this right to eat their lunch each day in the post office, in a section of the building set aside for that purpose, should have to eat their lunch somewhere outside, in a restaurant or somewhere else—