

CANADA LABOUR (STANDARDS) CODE**BILL TO AMEND—AUTHORITY TO PRINT
COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS**

Hon. T. D'Arcy Leonard, Acting Chairman of the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, presented the following report of the committee on Bill S-54, to amend the Canada Labour (Standards) Code:

Your committee recommends that authority be granted for the printing of 800 copies in English and 300 copies in French of its proceedings on the said bill.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

Hon. Mr. Leonard: I move, with leave of the Senate, that the report be adopted now.

Report adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. Mr. Leonard, Acting Chairman of the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, reported that the committee had considered Bill S-54, to amend the Canada Labour (Standards) Code, and had directed that the bill be reported without amendment.

THIRD READING

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate, I move that the bill be read the third time now.

Hon. Mr. Leonard: Honourable senators, first I wish to say a few words in explanation of the proceedings of the committee and this report which has just been adopted.

The committee met at 8 o'clock this evening and had before it the Honourable John J. R. Nicholson, Minister of Labour; Mr. Jean Dupré, Assistant Deputy Minister of Labour; Mr. Harris Johnstone, Director of the Labour Standards Branch of the Department of Labour; and Miss E. Lorentsen, their legal adviser.

The Minister explained the bill. I think it was apparent to all that the bill is to correct a mistake which, had it been brought to the attention of the Government and of Parliament at the time when the original statute was being introduced last year, this type of provision would have been included in the bill.

The employee who perhaps is employed for only a few hours or a few days at a time by one employer and then subsequently is employed by another employer, becomes known as a multi-employer employee. By this amendment such an employee is brought into line with the employee who has one employer throughout the entire year.

At present the employee of a multi-employer has no person against whom the cost of his eight holidays is properly chargeable, whereas in the case of the employee who is employed for the whole year by one employer, the cost is charged against that employer. In the other case, a man may be working only a few days before one of the statutory holidays comes up, and the question arises, who is to pay him for that statutory holiday. A very simple system is being worked out, and though it is not in the act it will be in the regulations, whereby 3 per cent is added to each employee's wage, whether it be for the hour or for the day, and this charge compensates the employee for his statutory holidays. By being charged per hour or per day it has the effect of automatically distributing the vacation pay cost over whoever is employing him throughout the whole year.

The Minister also said that this was a matter of some urgency, because there had been some proceedings which had resulted in jail sentences in connection with disputes by reason of the provisions of the act in this particular respect, and that he had given an undertaking that he would introduce a bill to correct the situation before the end of the year.

This is legislation which has been requested by the representatives of the employees to correct the situation from which they are suffering. It has been discussed with and is not objected to by the employers represented by the shipping companies on both the east and west coasts and on the St. Lawrence River.

I think, honourable senators, that is the explanation which satisfies all members of the committee.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time, and passed.

CONSUMER CREDIT (COST OF LIVING)**THIRD ANNUAL REVIEW OF ECONOMIC
COUNCIL OF CANADA REFERRED
TO JOINT COMMITTEE**

Hon. John J. Connolly, with leave of the Senate, moved: