

Mr. WALKER: Mr. Chairman, should I make a statement on this?

The CHAIRMAN: If you care to. That is your privilege.

Mr. KINLEY: You oppose the amendment and the bill?

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: I do.

Mr. WALKER: This is the first time, gentlemen, that I received any credit at all for this bill that we drafted. I thought it was a good bill. I am glad that Mr. Stevens thinks so also.

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: I did not say that, Mr. Walker.

Mr. WALKER: You seemed—

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: Now, just a moment. Mr. Chairman, the records of this committee are going to be kept right. I made no such statement, and if any man is so blind as not to see that I am opposed to this legislation, then I pity him, that is all. Mr. Walker has no right to put on the record a statement of that kind.

Mr. KINLEY: You say the bill is better than the amendment.

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: I say this: if we are going to pass it at all, this bill is infinitely better than the amendment.

Mr. CLEAVER: Do I understand, Mr. Stevens, that you are opposed to the proposed section in the bill referring to advertising and opposed to the proposed section in the bill providing for a monthly rate. I believe that is what Mr. Walker intended to indicate when he made that statement.

Mr. WALKER: Mr. Chairman, evidently one should not indulge in sarcasm.

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: You may if you like, but you will not get away with much of it. I think it is entirely *infra dig* to indulge in that kind of thing in a parliamentary committee. Members of the committee have some rights, you know.

Mr. WALKER: I stand humbly corrected; but I still feel there are a number of sections in this bill that Mr. Stevens seems to prefer to the amendment. Now, the chief criticism that was made to this bill, and the chief reason for changing or asking for the amendment was that we seemed to have drawn up regulations that were more appropriate to the general act than to a private bill. That criticism, I may say, was made by the interests who are to be here to-morrow. I understand Mr. Forsyth in his first memorandum that is before this committee made that criticism, and it was also made by others, and it was suggested that as Mr. Dunning had made a statement that a select committee would be appointed to go into general legislation we should put ourselves as closely as possible on a parity with the other company whose bill was preceding ours. It left us exactly in competition as we could be until such time as parliament should deal with these companies and other companies going into this business. Now, with regard to the merits of the various sections; when we were drafting them we did have in mind the idea of something in the nature of a model bill. We were deliberately inviting additional restrictions with the idea of encouraging the thought of general legislation; but as we have the assurance that the whole matter is going to be considered, it ceases to be important. But whether or not these particular sections were enacted the fact still remains that we are under the supervision of Mr. Finlayson, and he has been able to exercise most of these powers over us, whether they are expressed in one form of words or in another form of words. We must not overlook the