

Business of the House

amendments which I think should be answered by the minister, and I am not prepared to allow this clause to pass unless we have the assurance of the minister that these questions will be satisfactorily answered.

One of the questions I asked related to whether any industries had made representations in respect of this bill. I should like to receive a list of those industries which have made representations, as well as a list of the labour unions which have made representations. Have these industries and labour unions been apprised of the proposed amendments, and have they indicated that they appropriately cover their peculiar problems and situations.

Mr. Chairman, I do not think there is any point in passing these clauses if the result of this legislation will create chaos and dissatisfaction in various industries, and among their employees.

I also asked whether the terms of this bill will apply to the construction industry, and I should like to have an answer to that question. Another important aspect of this situation relates to uniformity of labour legislation between the federal government and the provinces. Have the provinces been approached in this regard and have they agreed to pass uniform legislation in order to bring about uniformity in this area?

Those are just some of the questions that have been asked which I feel the minister this bill. Surely there is no point in passing the hours of work portion of it before receiving appropriate answers to our questions.

I should also like to make a comment in respect of the proposed amendment to clause 51. I feel that this clause gives the governor in council and the minister great powers to amend from time to time, with or without any inquiry, any part of part II. This gives tremendous power to the minister and there is no provision for an appeal by individuals who may be affected. I am not suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that the minister will pass, with or without inquiry, certain amendments which will affect an entire industry, but he might pass something, with or without inquiry, by amendment or amendments to the regulations applicable to one business or one part of an industry. Certainly this situation needs further study before we pass this hours of work portion of the bill and before we accept these proposed amendments.

Perhaps the minister can commence his answers before ten o'clock, though I am sure he cannot complete them in the remaining three minutes. I might suggest to the

minister that in order that we may scrutinize these amendments more thoroughly we now call it ten o'clock and continue our consideration tomorrow.

Mr. Thomas: Mr. Chairman, I would like also to receive answers to the questions I have asked before agreeing to pass any part of this bill. I want to know how the minister relates the inclusion of local feed mills to federal works, undertakings and business. Surely the minister should answer that question.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Chairman, naturally I expect to answer as many questions as I can, and I thank hon. members for their interest in this particular part of the bill. I think perhaps we should wait until tomorrow before I begin to do so, so I am quite agreeable that we now call it ten o'clock. I will attempt to deal with all the questions that have been asked when we return to our consideration of this bill tomorrow.

Mr. Starr: Perhaps I might also ask the minister whether he will consider allowing the committee more time to thoroughly study this bill by proceeding with other less controversial parts which may be passed without too much difficulty, and without the necessity for so many questions, and then come back to these proposed amendments. Would the minister consider that suggestion?

The Chairman: Is it the desire of the committee to call it ten o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue our consideration of the bill now before us. When that consideration has been completed, the government proposes to call item No. 76 on today's order paper to be followed by items Nos. 54, 92, 48 and 52.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to draw one other matter to the attention of the house. The order paper as it now stands contains items 44A and 44B, which are flag resolutions. In view of the action which has been taken, and was completed yesterday, I think it would be in order to ask this house to drop those two items from the order paper. With the consent of the house, that will be done.