

*Unemployment Insurance Act*

discussion of clause 1 of the bill will not be permitted by the Chair, although reasonable latitude will be allowed. I therefore consider that the point of order raised by the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate is not really a point of order. I cannot permit irrelevant remarks.

**Mr. MacInnis:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will take this opportunity to thank the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate, although I have my suspicions.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I just believe in being fair.

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Beware the Greeks bearing gifts!

**Mr. MacInnis:** I have not much more to say, Mr. Chairman, other than in reference to the 1950 amendments and the action of the hon. member for Essex East in not recalling—and it is reported right here in *Hansard*—whether he was parliamentary assistant or acting minister of labour. I should like to say that anybody acting on behalf of labour, and who has ever had the honour or the opportunity to represent labour in this house in either capacity, should be ashamed of the fact that he could not recall whether he was parliamentary assistant or acting minister of labour. I would say that any person in this country who has had that opportunity—and I do not suggest this, as was done previously; I say it outright—of representing labour and who professes to have an interest in labour but who could not recall these dates is just, as was indicated, not interested in labour whatsoever.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Chairman, there are one or two points that I think I ought to deal with right away. They were mentioned by the Minister of Labour and by the hon. gentleman who has just spoken. I am not going to spend any time showing whether or not I am sincere in my advocacy of labour and of social welfare measures. I am not going to spend any time on that matter.

**Mr. Ricard:** The facts prove it.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** All I can say is that I have been in this house for 23 years and my record will show whether or not I have shown any interest in the social welfare problems of the people of this country. I do not think it is fair for any hon. member of this house to criticize Mr. Andras of the Canadian Labour Congress, Mr. George Burt, director of the united automobile workers, and Mr. Marchand, the secretary of Les Syndicats Catholiques. These three representatives of labour on the advisory committee of the unemployment insurance commission have given long and distinguished

service to the government and to the people of Canada as members of that committee. Because they resigned from that committee in protest against the principle of this bill is no reason for referring to them as individuals who have not served the interests of labour.

**Mr. Starr:** I rise on a point of order. These gentlemen did not resign in protest against the principle of this bill.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** We shall see.

**Mr. Starr:** These gentlemen resigned because of the appointment of Mr. MacArthur.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** We shall see.

**An hon. Member:** Wrong again.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** We shall see whether these gentlemen are in support of this bill.

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Another slippery retreat by the hon. member for Essex East.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** The Minister of Finance is losing his patience or losing control of himself, and that is a bad thing for any minister of the crown to do. I would suggest that the usually phlegmatic minister persuade his ebullient colleague the Minister of Labour to contain himself also.

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** And sit here and listen to you clutter up the record with nonsense?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** The advisory committee made up not only of these three members representing labour but as well Mr. Maclean, who, as I pointed out a moment ago continues to be a labour representative and is still on the advisory committee. He joined with the employer representatives and the neutral chairman in being unanimously opposed to the main objective of this bill, as represented in their observations in the report tabled by the Minister of Labour in this house pursuant to the statute, in which they unanimously—

**Mr. Starr:** I wonder if the hon. member will permit a question?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** When I finish my sentence. As I was saying—in which report they unanimously asserted that nothing should be done until the government contribution was increased to at least half of the total proposed contribution of the workers.

**Mr. Starr:** What amendments were they opposed to? What amendments were opposed by the advisory committee?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Don't lose your temper.