

In referring to various other acts for which the Export and Import Permits Act may provide complementary support, perhaps I should mention that the act does not, of course, include any provisions, nor are any provisions being proposed, whereby items are automatically added to the import control list or the export control list at any time as a result of action initiated under other acts. When items are added or deleted from the import or export control list, the government makes a decision in each case, having regard to its international commitments and the recommendations which may be made to it by departments, agencies, or boards, as well as whatever other significant circumstances prevail at the time. The Canadian Dairy Commission Act is the only act in the group of five in section 5(b) for which the Export and Import Permits Act is being used to provide complementary support at the present time.

The inclusion of an expiry date in the act leads to unnecessary administrative expense for industry and government departments. For example, it is customary practice to issue export permits covering a six-month period to reduce the work of applying and issuance to a minimum. However, once the act approaches its expiry date, this economizing of effort cannot be achieved so that additional applications must be filed and processed this year.

Another example is that it is customary to issue certain export permits for periods of one year for aircraft replacement parts in cases where companies have specific on-going commitments to export items on an "urgent rush" basis in order that aircraft will be grounded for a minimum length of time but, during the calendar year in which the act is due to expire, the business of arranging these special permits must be done twice. The same situation exists in respect of approximately 400 special calendar year export permits which have been issued to logging and pulpwood firms. Similar difficulty is being encountered on the import control list side in respect of shirts where approximately 65 importing companies are involved.

● (1540)

An expiry date in the act can also introduce an element of uncertainty in private companies' export sales negotiations with potential purchasers, particularly in countries that are on the area control list. State-trading countries are accustomed to obtaining export permits—indeed, in most cases, require that a permit be issued—to cover a long lead-time delivery item before completion of a final sales contract. Cases have arisen, however, where it has been impossible to issue an export permit for long lead-time items since delivery was scheduled after the expiry date of the act.

Therefore, industry and government have been required to go to considerable lengths in such instances to provide as much reassurance as possible to potential buyers, short of a definitive commitment, that export permits will be granted. Since it is hoped that Canadian exports of long lead-time advanced technology products will expand to state-trading nations, it would be useful to reduce to a minimum, administrative impediments and irritations in dealing with these potential customers.

Honourable senators, I commend this bill to your favourable consideration.

[Hon. Mr. McElman.]

Hon. John M. Macdonald: Honourable senators, it is not my intention to speak to this bill at this time. I am sure we are all grateful to Senator McElman for his detailed and penetrating explanation of this important measure.

I understand there are honourable senators on this side of the house who wish to speak to the bill. I further understand that it is proposed to refer the bill to committee. In those circumstances, it might be better if the bill is read the second time now, and referred to committee. Those of us who wish to speak may do so on third reading.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On motion of Senator McElman, bill referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce.

NOTICE OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Hon. Mr. Langlois: Honourable senators, I would like to inform the house that the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce will be sitting tomorrow morning. I do not yet know in which room or at what time, but I expect it will be at 10 or 10.30 a.m. The notices will be out this evening.

Hon. Mr. Buckwold: The meeting of the committee scheduled for Wednesday will still be held.

Hon. Mr. Langlois: I have now been informed that arrangements have been made for the committee to sit at 10 a.m. tomorrow in room 356-S.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

TELEVISION PROGRAM "LES BEAUX DIMANCHES"—
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
AUTHORIZED TO EXAMINE

Hon. Leopold Langlois moved pursuant to notice:

That the Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications be authorized to examine and report upon the matter of the program entitled "Les Beaux Dimanches," televised on 28th April, 1974, on the French network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

He said: Honourable senators, I wish to make only a few comments at this time, since I gave my reasons for presenting this motion when I spoke to the matter on May 1.

On Sunday, April 28, I saw on the CBC French network a program entitled "Les Beaux Dimanches," to which I took very serious objection. I do not wish to prejudice the matter, but I feel strongly that this type of program should be drawn to the attention of the Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications because, in my opinion, Canadian taxpayers should not be asked to pay for this kind of program on the national television network.

The program in question concerned the opening of a session of Parliament at which, presumably, Her Majesty the Queen was in attendance. It concerned also the introduction to Rideau Hall of its new incumbents, the Gover-