

crucial items, on which it is unlikely they will ever bargain collectively, be part and parcel of or connected to the container clause. The container clause affects most seriously the other articles which we have named. The remaining items can be left to the collective bargaining process.

Our amendment was designed to fit in with the arguments put forward by the Minister yesterday and just now. We urge the Minister to reconsider. This amendment suits his purposes and those of this House exactly. The amendment was drafted after a very great deal of careful thought and consultation. The union is no more happy about a binding decision of Parliament than are the employers. However, even the union admits that those are items which they would prefer to leave in the hands of the industrial commission which will make a binding decision. That surely fits in with what the Minister just said. I hope he will make a last minute reconsideration and agree to accept the amendment.

Amendment (Mr. Benjamin) negatived: Yeas, 11; Nays, 27.

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Chairman, I hope the Chair will watch closely when votes are called. As soon as the Chair calls the vote no one else may enter the Chamber.

The Chairman: The Chair takes note of the point raised by the Member for Regina West.

Mr. Angus: Mr. Chairman, all of the additional amendments on the page entitled: NDP Amendments 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, were consequential and will, therefore, not be moved.

The Chairman: Shall Clause 6 carry?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Clause 6 agreed to.

On Clause 7—

Mr. Foster: Mr. Chairman, I would like to amend Clause 7 by moving:

That Bill C-24, an Act to provide for the maintenance of ports operations be amended in Clause 7 by striking out line 1, at page 4, and substituting the following therefor:

"this Act applies, including provision for job security, development of the port, rail facilities, improvement of competitive position of the port and such other matters relat—"

The purpose of this amendment is to make it clear to the industrial inquiry Commissioner that these other matters should be reported on by him. The employers association is arguing that if the container clause is removed, tens of thousands of additional containers will come through the Port of Vancouver. That clearly will not happen without these other matters relating to the development of the port and the rail facilities being dealt with.

I have spoken a couple of times this morning about the obligation which CNR and CPR have under the Western Grain Transportation Act to improve those facilities. There is also the competitive position of the port. These recommendations will not be binding on the Government, they are simply

Maintenance of Ports Operations Act, 1986

other matters relating to the port operations. They are, however, very germane to the some 300 workers who are threatened with lay-off if the container clause were to be removed. It will make it clear to the Government and to the Port of Vancouver that it must get on with these improvements.

● (1610)

I think it is important that this amendment, including the provision for job security, be accepted. I hope the committee will give us full support for the amendment.

The Chairman: The Chair finds the amendment to be in order.

Mr. Angus: Mr. Chairman, we think that the amendment makes sense because it fully clarifies the role of the Commissioner. We will support it.

Mr. Cadieux: Mr. Chairman, first I want to take this occasion to thank Hon. Members of both opposition Parties for their co-operation in giving me the text of their amendments in advance. Obviously it makes our task a little easier. I have had discussions with some members of each Party this morning in order to give them some preliminary impressions of the amendments. The effect of this particular amendment would be to require the Minister of Labour to refer to the industrial inquiry commission matters which are well beyond my authority as Minister and which are well beyond the scope of the collective agreement. Therefore we cannot accept the amendment as it is.

As I assured my colleagues this morning, the terms of reference that will eventually be given to the commission will definitely be large enough for it to look at those points that have been made by Hon. Members.

Mr. Foster: Mr. Chairman, it just occurs to me that the Minister seems to be saying that all of this will be done and that clearly the matter relating to job security is in the clause of the conciliation report now, so that there is no question about job security. The Minister seems to be saying that this will be done, that hopefully the industrial Commissioner will make this report and explore all of these matters, advise the Government and the port authority about what has to be done to ensure that the port handles more containers in the future. However, the Minister does not want to put it in the Bill.

Since the Minister expects the Commissioner to do this, I would feel much better if he would agree to put it in the legislation, even at this late moment.

Mr. Cadieux: Mr. Chairman, again I will assure my hon. colleagues that the terms of reference will be wide enough to include such points as job security. As a matter of fact, the Commissioner looked into that in his own report. I am sure that all Members of the House will be very satisfied with the terms of reference that would be given to the commission.