

The fact is that we are confronted with conditions, and whether we like the bill or not the public interest requires that we vote for it. We are in somewhat the same position as a drowning man who cannot argue about the colour of the life preserver that is thrown to him. While it is compulsory that we vote for the measure now before us, I think that everybody should understand that we do so because we have no other course. We are not necessarily approving all the principles that may be found in this bill, but we are voting in an emergency when the economic life of Canada demands that the railways resume operation. Indeed, the interests of the men themselves demand that we pull them out of this position. But let it not be thought for one moment that we are laying down a precedent that I, at least, will vote for in the future.

I therefore regretfully vote for this measure, and I hope the railway wheels will be turning twelve hours from now.

**Some Hon. Senators:** Question!

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second time.

#### THIRD READING

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall the bill be read the third time?

**Hon. Mr. Robertson:** With leave of the Senate, now.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the third time, and passed.

#### THE ROYAL ASSENT

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Assistant Secretary to the Governor General, acquainting him that the Honourable Patrick Kerwin, acting as Deputy of the Governor General, would proceed to the Senate Chamber this day at 9.45 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to a bill.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

The sitting was resumed.

The Honourable Patrick Kerwin, the Deputy of the Governor General, having come and being seated at the foot of the Throne, and the House of Commons having been summoned, and being come with their Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy of the Governor General was pleased to give the Royal Assent to the following bill:

An Act to provide for the resumption of operations of railways and for the settlement of the existing dispute with respect to terms and conditions of employment between railway companies and their employees.

The House of Commons withdrew.

The Honourable the Deputy of the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.