

*Unemployment Insurance Act*

As I have said, all that we had there was a filibuster. The hon. member for Essex East complained about not having an opportunity to interrogate certain witnesses. All you need do to check that statement is to refer to the reports of the proceedings of the committee, and it will be seen that the member for Essex East was on record numerous times, in fact three to one against anybody else serving on that committee. He passed up his opportunities to interrogate by continuing to make suggestions and statements, and in all the times he put himself on record he asked very few questions.

That was plainly indicated when Mr. Coyne of the Bank of Canada appeared before the committee. The hon. member made certain claims about Mr. Coyne's ability to carry out his responsibilities. He has said that the members of the unemployment insurance commission and the Minister of Labour failed to bring the bill forward in time for the unemployed to benefit after June 12. He has also referred to the advisory committee and the fact that there was no opportunity to question its members. As I have stated before, it would be very unfair to call the committee before the industrial relations committee when labour itself is not represented, on account of the recent resignation of three members of the committee.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** What about Mr. Maclean? Is he not a labour representative?

**Mr. MacInnis:** Yes; I will correct myself, and say labour was not fully represented because of the three recent retirements. I imagine they retired possibly to embarrass the government or the Minister of Labour, but it turns out that they have only embarrassed labour. As was pointed out in the industrial relations committee, labour will want to have representation on that committee, and these men have placed labour in a very precarious position. The Canadian Labour Congress will want representation on the committee, and it is most embarrassing to them that three of their members have resigned and will have to be replaced.

Reference has been made to Mr. Burt and the telegram he forwarded to the committee. Mr. Burt took exception to the bill in his telegram. He condemned it. Yet Mr. Burt was a member of a committee that advised the commission that certain portions of the bill were advantageous.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** That is not the case.

**Mr. Starr:** That is the case. The report shows that.

[Mr. MacInnis.]

**Mr. MacInnis:** His telegram certainly condemns the bill. I have one more point before I resume my seat with respect to the hon. member for Essex East and his interest in labour. There is no doubt about this. It is reported here in *Hansard*. As the Minister of Labour has just pointed out in reference to the 1950 amendments—and it was clearly pointed out to the industrial relations committee by Mr. Andras—in 1950 they were not given any opportunity whatsoever to appear. There is no doubt about that. The hon. member for Essex East was present when Mr. Andras made that statement.

**Mr. Starr:** They were not even consulted.

**Mr. MacInnis:** And they were not even consulted.

**Mr. Starr:** And they complained about it.

**Mr. MacInnis:** The hon. member says he has a great interest in labour. However, it is reported in *Hansard* that he cannot quite recall whether in 1950 he was parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Labour or whether he was—

**An hon. Member:** He was doing a great many jobs then.

**The Chairman:** Order. The bill that is under discussion is one to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act. I must ask the hon. member to please discuss unemployment insurance.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. Time after time I have sat in this chamber on the other side when the present leader of the house namely the hon. member for Vancouver Quadra, pointed out that the widest latitude was always allowed in the discussion on clause 1 of a bill in committee. The Minister of Finance has had wide latitude. The hon. member for Cape Breton South, who does not take up the time of the house very often, has something he wants to say which is closely related to the bill, and I think he should be allowed to say it.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Hear, hear.

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

**The Chairman:** As I mentioned in my remarks when I took the chair, although certain latitude had been permitted in previous debates on matters which were quite irrelevant to the point under discussion, I was asking hon. members to observe the rule with regard to relevancy. For the sake of ensuring order of debate in this committee the rule of relevancy will be strictly enforced by the Chair. Unlimited latitude in the