

Air Transport

condemned, and in the end offenders will be brought to justice. This legislation is a move in that direction.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I am happy on this occasion to join with the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacGuigan) and the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald) in making this a piece of legislation which we are dealing with on a non-partisan basis and which we all support.

The spokesmen for my party who deal with external affairs and with air transport in particular have studied the bill very carefully. We have dealt with it in the New Democratic Party caucus and I am authorized on behalf of my party to say that we are quite prepared today to give this bill its second reading and to deal with it in Committee of the Whole, and also give it third reading.

We support the statements which have been made by the minister and by the previous speaker regarding the concern we feel and must feel about terrorism, about increasing violence in the world. We are glad that the seven nations that meet in summit conferences reached the agreement set out in the Bonn communiqué, and we are glad we now have before us a piece of legislation that will implement that communiqué.

Since what the three of us are saying is that we are prepared to support this bill, there really is no need to spin out the debate. But it did occur to me that since all of us have been referring to the Bonn communiqué of July 17, 1978, and since it is rather short, it might be useful to have its actual words in the pages of *Hansard*. As I say, it is the one issued by the seven nations at the summit conference in Bonn on July 17, 1978, and it is as follows:

The Heads of State and Government, concerned about terrorism and the taking of hostages, declare that their Governments will intensify their joint efforts to combat international terrorism. To this end, in cases where a country refuses extradition or prosecution of those who have hijacked an aircraft and/or do not return such aircraft, the Heads of State and Government are jointly resolved that their Governments shall take immediate action to cease all flights to that country. At the same time, their Governments will initiate action to halt all incoming flights from that country or from any country by the airlines of the country concerned.

I like the last sentence:

They urge other governments to join them in this commitment.

What we have before us now is a bill to provide Canada's implementation of that commitment, and I want to say to the Secretary of State for External Affairs that I welcome the suggestion that we should have appropriate legislation on the books so that if any action is necessary there will be legislative authority for the appropriate order in council which might have to be issued.

We welcome the introduction of this legislation by this government, the same legislation the last government was ready to introduce, and I think I can say that the House is prepared to pass it through all stages before we rise for lunch.

● (1250)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the House went into committee thereon, Mr. Francis in the Chair.

Clauses 2, 3 and 4 agreed to.

On Clause 5—*Offence*.

Mr. Knowles: Mr. Chairman, before Clause 5 carries I should like to invite the minister to make a comment on it. It is the clause which provides for a penalty of \$25,000. It does not say whether that is a total penalty, or \$25,000 per day, or what have you. Some of my colleagues who have studied this bill felt at one point that it would be desirable to raise the amount of that fine. They had discussions with the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I wonder if the minister could give the reason, in the case of such a serious offence, the penalty is so low.

Mr. MacGuigan: Mr. Chairman, the matter which is now raised by the hon. member was discussed in the other place and there, with our concurrence, the fine was raised from \$10,000 to \$25,000. It is our interpretation that this applies to each day on each offence; that, as I said in my address, in exceptionally serious cases it is conceivable that all six prohibitions could be invoked; and that there could be a number of offences committed simultaneously, each of which for each day would trigger a fine of \$25,000.

The reason for not going above that figure is not to spare the perpetrators of any acts under this legislation, but to keep it at the level of an offence punishable on summary conviction in order to simplify the procedures. I had mentioned that we do have some legislative measures already in effect which could enable us to take such action, but they are more cumbersome, and one of the principal purposes of this legislation, as I said in my address, is that the government must have a procedure which can be implemented on short notice. The expeditious procedures here are able to be taken, in part because we do not go above \$25,000, which would involve us in an indictable offence and more complicated procedures.

Clause 5 agreed to.

Clause 6 agreed to.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

* * *

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR ACT

REMOVAL OF REQUIREMENT TO PUBLISH LABOUR GAZETTE

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister of Labour) moved that Bill S-4, to amend the Department of Labour Act, as reported