

employer, and on the other hand it purports to act on behalf of the public of Canada generally.

We have put forward the suggestion—if the hon. member for Hamilton West had the time, I am sure he would have done so himself—that there should be some independent body that could sit at the bargaining table for these purposes. Many times in the past we have suggested the creation of a public service disputes commission which would act in the public interest.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): We have it.

Mr. Drury: It is called the Public Service Staff Relations Board.

Mr. Nielsen: That has no more independence, in the sense in which I speak, than the minister himself.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise on a point of order. I hope the hon. member for Yukon will withdraw what he said in giving his views of me and interpreting the same optic to the Public Service Staff Relations Board and its distinguished chairman, which is nothing but a slur on him. I hope he will withdraw that comment.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): It is getting close to eleven o'clock, so I hope the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) will try to arrange that.

Mr. Nielsen: This is a debate, and no slur was intended. I was really trying to be fair to the minister, trying to be

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non-partisan. The minister said that he endeavours to approach these problems on a regional basis. If that is so, why is there this great gap between what MOT firefighters are being paid at Vancouver and what municipal firefighters are being paid? I understand it is in the order of \$3,000. If he is sincere in trying to settle on a regional basis, then what is the reason for this great gap?

The last observation I have—and I have three seconds in which to make it—is that I am wondering why Treasury Board applied the injunction knowing full well they have to commence proceedings and claim irreparable damage in order to obtain their injunction. And then they sit on it, because if there have been damages, as there must be otherwise the judge would not have granted the injunction, what was the purpose in getting the injunction if Treasury Board intended to sit on it and not make any effort to carry it through?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Pursuant to section 13 of Standing Order 26, I am satisfied that the debate has been concluded and the motion is deemed to have carried.

It being eleven o'clock, this House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. tomorrow.

At 11 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.