

NAYS

Messrs:

Barnett	Lambert
Beaudoin	(Bellechasse)
Benjamin	Latulippe
Brewin	Lewis
Broadbent	MacInnis (Mrs.)
Burton	Mather
Douglas (Nanaimo- Cowichan-The Islands)	Matte
Fortin	Nystrom
Gauthier	Peters
Gilbert	Rodrigue
Gleave	Saltsman
Godin	Skoberg
Harding	Tétrault
Howard (Skeena)	Thomson
Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre)	(Battleford- Kindersley—28.

• (4:30 p.m.)

Mr. Speaker: I declare the motion carried.

Mr. Robert P. Kaplan (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. Kaplan: Mr. Speaker, I would like to record that I was present for this vote.

An hon. Member: Why did you not vote?

Amendments read the second time and concurred in.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

ESTABLISHMENT AS CANADIAN CORPORATION

The House resumed from Monday, October 5 consideration in committee of Bill S-25 respecting Hudson's Bay Company—Mr. Basford—Mr. Laniel in the chair.

The Deputy Chairman: The House again in Committee of the Whole on Bill S-25 respecting the Hudson's Bay Company. When the committee rose last evening clause 2 was under consideration.

Clauses 2 to 5 inclusive agreed to.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Bill reported.

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs) moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

Establishment of Canadian Corporation

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

• (4:40 p.m.)

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): The main purpose of this bill is to continue the company, subject to the laws of Canada, with its head office in Canada. I think that this move has been long overdue. We in Manitoba are particularly pleased that this will mean a transfer of the head office of this company from London, England, to our capital city in Manitoba. I think it is significant also that this move has been made in the year 1970 when Manitobans are celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of their province. I suppose there must also be some significance in the fact that this is the three hundredth anniversary of the company itself.

All of us who have lived in the northern areas have from time to time been very closely associated with the operations of the Hudson's Bay Company. Mention has been made in this House by hon. members to the left of the exploitative nature of the operations of the Hudson's Bay Company with regard to the native people of Canada. I must say that on some occasions I have had the opportunity to discuss these matters with officials of the company in Winnipeg and in other places. I will not spend any time in giving the lengthy history of the company, but I think we should all realize that three hundred years of continuous operation of one company is outstanding in any nation in the world.

In 1670 the company was granted a charter by King Charles II, and in that same year they attempted to establish a fort at the mouth of the Nelson River where it flows into Hudson Bay. However, in 1684 they established York factory which was their base of operations in our western regions for 275 years until that operation was closed in 1957.

At Churchill, on the west coast of Hudson Bay, the company established a fort in 1685, some five miles upstream from the mouth of the river. I believe that that operation only lasted one year. It was destroyed by fire. Then, in 1713 they re-established their operations at Churchill at the mouth of the river.

All of us living in northern areas have had differences of opinion from time to time regarding the operations of this company and their attitude toward the native peoples but, in general, I would say it has been exemplary. We only need to look at the conditions of the local Indian people living at Churchill today