

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, June 21, 1977

The House met at 11 a.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION REORGANIZATION ACT

MEASURE TO ESTABLISH DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND
IMMIGRATION, ETC.

The House resumed from Monday, June 20, consideration of Bill C-27, to establish the Department of Employment and Immigration, the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission and the Canada Employment and Immigration Advisory Council, to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, and to amend certain other statutes in consequence thereof, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez) has the floor; but before proceeding I should carry on with the preliminary review I have made of the report stage motions. The House is now considering motion No. 4 and, as I mentioned yesterday, motions Nos. 5 and 6 can be grouped together for debate but voted on separately. It would be my intention to group motions Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 22, 29 and 30 together with motion No. 32 which seems to be a consequential amendment.

● (1110)

The question being put on motion No. 7 standing in the name of the minister would dispose of the group of motions except for motions Nos. 8 and 10. The question should be put separately on motion No. 8 standing in the name of the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Blackburn) and, if required, a division on motion No. 8 will also dispose of motion No. 10. Motion No. 11 standing in the name of the hon. member for Nickel Belt could be debated and voted upon separately.

When we come to motion No. 12 in the name of the hon. member for Nickel Belt, I think we should have a discussion on its procedural acceptability, because I have some difficulty regarding the relevance of the motion to clause 38 of the bill which it seeks to amend. I think reference should be made to the citation found in May's at page 521 in respect of going beyond the scope of the clause which the motion seeks to amend.

Motions Nos. 13, 14, 16, and 17 and 18 could be grouped for the purpose of debate, but the question should be put

separately on motions Nos. 13, 14 and 18. Then the question will be put on motion No. 17, and an affirmative vote will also dispose of motion No. 16. On the other hand, if motion No. 17 is negatived, it will be necessary to put the question on motion No. 16.

Motions Nos. 19, 27, 28 and 33 standing in the name of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Cullen) also cause me some difficulty from a procedural point of view in that they appear to be beyond the scope of Bill C-27. Indeed, the object of those motions is to amend sections 40, 114, and 132 of the parent act which are not mentioned in Bill C-27, as well as sections 7 and 8 of the Adult Occupational Training Act, which are also absent from Bill C-27. There may be some disposition to deal with those motions. But in the interim, in any case, I am prepared to hear arguments on the procedural regularity between now and the calling of those motions.

Motions Nos. 20 and 21 could be debated separately and voted on separately. Motions Nos. 23 and 24 could be grouped for the purpose of debate, but would require separate votes. The remaining motions, Nos. 25, 26 and 31, will be debated separately and voted on separately.

If, of course, as is the usual course, as we progress from motion to motion there are comments that hon. members wish to make in respect of this review, I will be glad to hear them or, if there are any that should be made at this moment, I will hear them. Otherwise, I will recognize the hon. member for Nickel Belt who will continue the debate.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I have several comments related to separate motions. Would it be possible for the document which you read to be photostated and distributed so we can determine how we should proceed?

Mr. Speaker: Yes. There are my own notes and I have followed them very closely in the announcement which I just made. I would be more than happy to have them duplicated and distributed to as many hon. members as want them.

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, yesterday we were discussing motion No. 4, which states in part:

"(3) Where for any purposes, the use of rate of unemployment produced by Statistics Canada is required under this act or the regulations, the rates used by the commission shall be those most recently produced at the time it is appropriate or necessary for the commission to make a final determination in respect of or involving the use of those rates."

I expressed the opinion yesterday that basically we had no objection to that at all. We welcome it. I wondered what the UIC had used in the past. I suspect that probably they used outmoded statistics or their own in-house studies. That moved me on to comment on the fact that it is too bad the minister did not widen the scope of his amendment to include that any