

shape. But we must remember in this connection that the first thing is that this is a social legislation, and in any kind of social legislation problems change, new problems arise and demand new solutions; and it is certainly not the wiser way to deal with legislation of this kind by waiting and holding up progress, saying that a more consolidated measure can be brought in. Besides, there is another disadvantage. In an effort to bring about consolidation, we are also in danger of bringing in rigidity and unchangeability in our outlook. It is not a very desirable feature of the situation. Sometimes I am tempted to feel proud that we in this country are developing our labour movement along independent lines. We have been trying to solve our problems in our own way and based on policies in keeping with the genius of the people. We have never allowed ourselves to forget that in this kind of legislation of labour matters we have to deal with people who have an adult franchise. Every man has a vote, and that fact has been kept constantly in mind in every effort we make.

Mahatma Gandhi had seen the necessity and the wisdom of taking interest very early in the labour movement and the welfare of the workers. And, as we all know, Nandaji has spent a whole life-time in building up the labour movement, through years. As a result of these efforts we have been able to evolve a labour movement which is non-political and non-partisan. We have been able to give a good answer to the other parties, with this new form of labour movement, the other bodies who have always had or have mostly had a communist-dominated union.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member's time is up.

17 hrs.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: Shall I continue?

Mr. Chairman: If he wants to conclude in a minute or two, I have no objection.

Some hon. Members: Let him continue tomorrow.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: May I have some time tomorrow? I would require some more time.

Mr. Chairman: He would like to continue on the 3rd?

Shri V. B. Gandhi: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: That is all right.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

TENTH REPORT

Shri Khadilkar (Khed): Madam, I beg to present the Tenth Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House.

17.01 hrs.

PROPOSALS FOR STREAMLINING OF WORK OF I. & B. MINISTRY*

Mr. Chairman: Now, the House shall take up the half-an-hour discussion. Shri Nath Pai.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting in the statement which she made had, among other things, this to say to the question which was asked of her about the working of the Ministry which she has been currently heading. She said:—

“The problem (basically) before us is..... of so revitalising the entire Ministry as to enable its different organisations not only to keep more closely in touch

*Half-an-Hour Discussion.