

The House re-assembled 'at Four of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MESSAGES FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATES

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following two messages received from the Secretary of the Council of States:

(1) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to inform the House of the People that the Council of States, at its sitting held on the 7th May, 1953, agreed without any amendment to the Comptroller and Auditor-General (Conditions of Service) Bill, 1953, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 29th April, 1953."

(2) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to return herewith the Patiala and East Punjab States Union Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1953, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 2nd May, 1953, and transmitted to the Council of States for its recommendations and to state that the Council has no recommendations to make to the House of the People in regard to the said Bill."

TEA BILL—Contd.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Before you begin, Sir, may I make a suggestion? The general discussion is now going on. Much of the general discussion excepting in regard to a few cases will be more on the working of the Act as it should be afterwards, and it will greatly facilitate the work if the general discussion could be cut short. We have already had two and a quarter hours. We might take up the clause by clause discussion and in the third reading stage speeches may be allowed for about two hours on the working of the Act. The third reading discussion might be taken up tomorrow, if necessary. If some such arrangement could be made, it would greatly facilitate business and we could finish the second reading today.

Dr. M. M. Das (Burdwan—Reserved—Sch. Castes): The number of Members who have already spoken on the Bill is very small, only two or three.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): Two and a half. We shall decide it at the end.

Prof. Mathew (Kottayam): There are several Members who would like to participate.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: As I said the other day, I do not think Government has got any objection. We have two days allotted for this. We have already spent two hours. We have got six hours more before us. Even if we sit till seven P.M.—we will assume—it will be three hours. Still, three more hours will be available. That will be on some other day. Now, I only ask the opinion of hon. Members of the House. There is no doubt about my sitting, but I would urge upon hon. Members also to satisfy themselves about not a minute less than eight hours. Even if we go on with this, possibly the last one hour will be for third reading. There may be so much of discussion as many hon. Members have taken a keen interest in this affair. Let us have an idea. Clause by clause discussion may take about three hours.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Two hours.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would urge upon hon. Members to consider this. I do not want to say, this ought not to be said in the consideration stage, this does not arise in the second reading stage, or in the third reading stage and so on. We can take up the clause by clause consideration now. Whatever hon. Members want to say upon those matters, let them say it in the third reading. Evidently, the hon. Minister is unable to be here tomorrow. Now, while the clauses are discussed, he would like to be here and settle the discussion. Let us have three hours now and each Member can speak on these clauses. Let us dispose of the clauses in three hours. After all, we are not settling procedure for all time. Occasionally some contingencies arise when in public interest the Minister has arranged already to go elsewhere. But he would like to see this through. So we can dispose of the clause by clause consideration and the discussion can go on later. I will allow as much latitude in the third reading stage as possible.