

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

**Mr. Mahoney:** Mr. Speaker, I believe there is general disposition to proceed immediately to item No. 7 on the Order Paper under public bills, namely, second reading and reference of Bill C-25 standing in the name of the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Goode), and that the preceding bills retain their position on the Order Paper.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is it agreed that all the items on the Order Paper appearing prior to Bill C-25 shall stand and retain their positions?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

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## CANADIAN NATIONAL POLLUTION AWARENESS WEEK

MEASURE TO MAKE PEOPLE AWARE OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

**Mr. Tom H. Goode (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta)** moved that Bill C-25, respecting Canadian National Pollution Awareness Week, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works.

**Some hon. Members:** Carried.

**Mr. P. M. Mahoney (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a pleasure to have the opportunity to—

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** —to cut off your own colleague.

**Mr. Mahoney:** Mr. Speaker, I am sorry; I must have misunderstood the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Goode).

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The Chair has recognized the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Mahoney).

**Mr. Mahoney:** Mr. Speaker, the bill before the House is one that I think is very worthy of endorsement. The problems of pollution—a matter so much in the public interest today—should be approached with a great deal—

• (4:00 p.m.)

**Mr. McGrath:** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I thought the measure before the House was No. 7 of public bills. I believe this item stands in the name of the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Goode), and I am wondering what the Parliamentary Secretary is doing on his feet at this time, apart from trying to talk-out his colleague's motion.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. The Chair has recognized the Parliamentary Secretary.

**Mr. Mahoney:** Mr. Speaker, I am on my feet simply because Your Honour recognized me. I think the bill—

*Canadian Pollution Awareness Week*

**Mr. McGrath:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

**Mr. McGrath:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am wondering whether the hon. member intends to give us an explanation of his bill. This is what we are waiting for.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I recognize the Parliamentary Secretary.

**Mr. Mahoney:** Mr. Speaker, in common with many of the other problems facing Canada and world society today, this is an area of concern. Nothing but the greatest benefits can come from a public awareness of the circumstances surrounding it.

**Mr. McCleave:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege which I believe affects the rights of all members of the House and in particular the rights of the hon. member sponsoring this bill. As I understand the procedure resulting from Your Honour's recognition of the Parliamentary Secretary, it is that the sponsor of the bill will not have an opportunity to speak on it unless he is permitted to close the debate; he does not have the opportunity to open the debate and explain his bill. In view of the limits placed on private members' hour, I believe this precedent, if allowed to become practice, would have serious consequences. I believe a great deal of thought should be given to this procedure before we accept it. I hate to put my question of privilege forward in this language, but what has happened in the last few minutes is disturbing.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles).

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, it seems to me there is unnecessary confusion in respect of this point of order. What happened was quite clear. The hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Goode) moved the second reading of his bill and the motion was seconded by the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay). Because some of us were shouting "Carried," I take it the hon. member who is sponsoring the bill thought he might get it through without speaking and he therefore sat down. All he did was tip his hat, as the book says, but that meant he had spoken. So it was then open to anyone to enter the debate, and Your Honour quite properly recognized someone. I do not blame the hon. member for trying to get his bill through, but he has lost his opportunity to speak at this stage. He can speak again to conclude the debate when we reach the end of second reading, but that could be a year from next March.

**Mr. McGrath:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the business of the House might be facilitated if the Parliamentary Secretary were given an opportunity to table his speech as read, so that we could obtain the consent of the House to the motion.