

*Byelections*

(Mr. Malone) to allow him extra time. Most of the afternoon was taken up on motions, routine proceedings, statements by ministers, and the question period was an extremely long one, so we sought unanimous consent to continue until 18 minutes past six and we are proceeding—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. parliamentary secretary has the floor for a point of order. When I have heard him I shall listen to any other points of order.

**Mr. Collenette:** We are proceeding in the normal way for private members' hour. If hon. members on the other side do not agree with remarks made by members on this side or of any other party, that should not enter into the question at all.

I would say it is only natural courtesy that we continue until we dispose of this question, either by referring it to the committee for second reading or by the expiry of the hour. That is the way we do business around here, Mr. Speaker. If the opposition is going to come forward with motions at private members' hour—and I am not sure whether this motion is in order and can be put at this time and I would ask you to rule on that—then the whole complexion of private members' hour debate will be changed.

Private members' bills and motions are not always talked out. Some of them reach committee. In fact last week we dealt with a motion or a bill of the hon. member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert) on the question of Canada Day, which in the Thirtieth Parliament had been sent to the standing committee for consideration. Yet, when it was brought back last week hon. members on the other side talked it out. It works both ways, Mr. Speaker.

If there is a fundamental disagreement it is sometimes the government that talks the motions out. That is not to say that this particular bill would be talked out. I think it is an extreme discourtesy in this House, after we have made a special order—

**Mr. Yurko:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Collenette:**—in deference to the—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The parliamentary secretary has risen on a point of order and I recognized him. I am inviting him to comment on the motion which is before us. I have accepted the motion; it appears to be in order according to the rules and it is a debatable motion. If the parliamentary secretary has any further comment, I would be interested to hear.

**Mr. Collenette:** Mr. Speaker, I think there are many members on this side of the House who will want to speak to the motion now that you have accepted it. If you have accepted it, obviously I do not have a point of order because I was really arguing about the whole question of its admissibility at this point.

If you wish, I shall now sit down and rise again and speak on the motion.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member for Edmonton East (Mr. Yurko) is rising on a point of order. Does he want to state his point of order?

**Mr. Yurko:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I find that the procedure in the House is somewhat irregular according to my understanding of procedures in legislatures and the House of Commons. You were in the middle of a vote, Mr. Speaker. You asked for "yes" and we responded, and in fact we voted. In fairness to everyone concerned—

**An hon. Member:** Mr. Speaker, a point of order—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The Chair had a motion placed before it. The Chair has ruled that the motion is in order. The Chair is recognizing those who want to speak to the motion. I will call it again.

**Mr. Simmons:** I should like to speak to the motion, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of State for Science and Technology and Minister of the Environment (Mr. Simmons).

**Mr. Roger Simmons (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State for Science and Technology and Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, the motion now before the House is that the question be put. That is a debatable motion. I want to speak to the merits of putting the question at this time and I submit that is my prerogative.

I happen to know that there are at least two other members on this side of the House—

**An hon. Member:** Three.

**Mr. Simmons:** I am now informed there are three members. Do I hear four?

**Mr. Knowles:** Sold!

**Mr. Simmons:** There are three or four members on this side of the House who have made exhaustive preparations in order to address themselves to Bill C-209. For some reason an effort is being made through this motion to apply a guillotine and force a vote. We all know that is perfectly legitimate. I submit it is railroading, but it is a legitimate motion under the rules of this House. We have a legitimate option in this chamber to vote against the motion that the question now be put. That is our right, and I give notice now that although I have spoken in the debate I have enough loyalty to my colleagues that I would like to hear what they have to say.

For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I intend to vote against the motion now before the House, the motion that the question now be put. I do not think it is fair. We have only been discussing the bill for 50 minutes or so and it involves a fairly important change in the legislation. It is a change with which I