

Routine Proceedings

REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON BILL C-72

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current—Maple Creek—Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I had the honour to chair the legislative committee on Bill C-72, an act to establish the Canadian Polar Commission. At this time I would like to present, in both official languages, the report of the legislative committee on Bill C-72, an act to establish the Canadian Polar Commission and to amend certain acts in consequence thereof.

In passing, I would like to give my personal thanks to members on all sides who participated in the deliberations and hearings of the legislative committee. Members dealt expeditiously with the legislation, which should have important implications for the north and for the Arctic areas.

[*Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

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HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE STATUS OF DISABLED PERSONS

CONCURRENCE IN SECOND REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches—Woodbine): I move that the second report of the Standing Committee on Human Rights and the Status of Disabled Persons, presented to the House on Monday, June 18, 1990 be concurred in.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): The hon. member for Beaches—Woodbine has the floor.

Mr. Young (Beaches—Woodbine): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, we all agree that this report should be adopted. Why do we have to debate such a motion if we all agree that it should be adopted?

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend is in a sense correct. We all agree with this report. My hon. colleague from Beaches—Woodbine wants to indicate a few concerns that go beyond the report, but we are quite prepared to vote on concurrence later today.

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, my only point is that since we all agree, I hardly see the use of having a debate.

However, if we are going to have a debate, I want to make sure that the member for Hamilton—Mountain will have a chance to make the remarks she wants to put to this motion. I understand that the government wants to put a speaker up also. If we all agree to having the motion now put to a vote, we will adopt it without debate, but if it has to be debated, let us make an agreement that we all have a chance to speak to this motion.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I am sorry to interrupt, but until it receives further notice, the Chair feels it has sufficient grounds to recall that even if the motion has been adopted, a member may speak to it if he so wishes.

I therefore recognize the hon. member for Beaches—Woodbine. First, however, the Government Whip has the floor.

[*English*]

Mr. Hawkes: Mr. Speaker, I just want to make it clear that from the government point of view, the cabinet has reviewed the document and is quite in favour of all the recommendations. All members on our side would adopt the report and we could move on to other business of importance to the nation. When we are all in agreement like this, it does seem to be a bit of a bad use of the \$2 million a day, or whatever it is it costs this place to debate something that we are all agreed to in the first place.

• (1520)

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, when we are dealing with a whole set of recommendations regarding the disabled people of Canada, I do not think we need to feel we have to act quickly. A lot of thought went into this.

I have listened to the Liberal and Conservative spokespersons. May I suggest that we have one round of speakers each if they wish.

As a matter of fact we have offered that for many days. This does not come as a surprise. We have clearly indicated that this is our inclination, to allow us to get on with business, and yet have an important discussion by hearing from each of the political parties about the concerns of the disabled of Canada. I do not think that is expecting too much.