

C-201, which is a continuation of the legislation introduced by the Diefenbaker Government in regard to modern sewage disposal plants, in 1960, when I had the honour to be the minister responsible.

Originally, we allowed a 25 per cent reduction to encourage municipalities to hasten the building of these sewage disposal plants. The present Government has extended the time, and I suppose that municipalities now know that no matter when they build them they will still get this reduction. In any event, since we introduced this program in 1960, 1,441 municipalities have installed modern sewage disposal plants. There is no question about it, we had a great deal of trouble from the Liberals in getting this measure through. They opposed it, as they opposed everything we did. You could not blame them because, after all, they were in the doghouse after being for years in the seat of power.

**Hon. Mr. Bourget:** They did not stay there very long, though.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** For a period of six years, that is all!

**Hon. Mr. Flynn:** That is true. I think Senator Bourget was the critic.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** No, not in my time. He and I got along too well. He was the critic of something else. I want to say that just before that time Senator Bourget was a very able parliamentary assistant to the Honourable Robert Winters. When I inherited that portfolio after Mr. Winters, I heard the name of Mr. Bourget mentioned as an exceedingly competent and able parliamentary assistant to a very great minister, the Honourable Robert Winters. If he were the Prime Minister of Canada now instead of the man we have, it would be of great advantage to all Canadians—that is, if the honourable Leader of the Government in the Senate was not in the running, but who am I to make any comment? We cannot speak of our personal likes and dislikes. We have to take the dice the way they fall.

Now I shall get back to sewage disposal plants, after discussing a matter on such a high plane—and I must say that I am drawing no analogy between the two topics of discussion. I do not know why I thought of the one while I was speaking of the other.

Honourable senators, this is a good bill. Let us give credit where credit is due. These things are very important and badly needed,

as was the university housing which the Diefenbaker Government introduced and which is being encouraged by this Government. In the field of government, it would almost appear that all the good ideas originated with the Diefenbaker Government.

**Hon. Mr. Fournier (Madawaska-Restigouche):** Honourable senators, I should like to ask a question of the honourable sponsor of this bill (Hon. Mr. Langlois). Here we have two bills, both amending the National Housing Act, 1954. Why is it necessary to have two bills? Is it not possible to put all these amendments into one bill? It seems to me that that would be a much simpler way of dealing with them.

**Hon. Mr. Langlois:** If the honourable senator would again look at the two bills he will see that Bill C-192 was read the first time in the House of Commons on April 30, 1969, and that Bill C-201 was read the first time in the House of Commons on May 23, 1969.

On May 21 the Government made an announcement of its intention to further amend the National Housing Act. This, I take it, was as a result of the continuing discussions and exchange of views between the federal and the provincial governments. In other words, the federal Government then decided to bring forward additional legislation. Since Bill C-192 had already been introduced, another bill was necessary to achieve the Government's purpose.

**Hon. Mr. Fournier (Madawaska-Restigouche):** It is just coincidence, then?

**Hon. Mr. Flynn:** It had nothing to do with the resignation of Mr. Hellyer?

**Hon. Mr. Langlois:** Nothing whatsoever.

**Hon. Mr. Molson:** Honourable senators, I must inform you that I have a copy of Bill C-201. Somehow it escaped from the Post Office and came into my possession.

**Hon. Mr. Flynn:** Congratulations to Mr. Kierans.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

#### REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On motion of Hon. Mr. Langlois, bill referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce.