

in particular, and programs related to pornography and sex stereotyping. Media Watch has been funded by the Minister responsible for the Status of Women who has been very much concerned about this matter and who wants to see something done in a positive way.

It is not only the Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood who has been carrying the torch on this question. Certainly on this side of the House the Ministers responsible have been trying to arrive at a suitable solution to this very penetrating question.

It has been suggested by the Hon. Member that the Minister of Justice (Mr. McGuigan) set up a special committee to see how the Criminal code could be changed as it relates to violence and sexual crimes. In turn, this will relate to the broadcasting industry.

I should like to add my support for this Bill, Mr. Speaker. It has been suggested that we send it on to the Standing Committee on Communications and Culture, and I think that is where it should be handled. It is not a question of trying to prolong the debate, but to change the Broadcasting Act and put teeth into this section is not as simple as the Hon. Member states. There is a difference between changing the Broadcasting Act and amending CRTC regulations.

I would therefore move:

That the motion be amended by deleting all the words after the word "That" and substituting the following therefor:

Bill C-675 an Act to amend the Broadcasting Act be not now read the second time but that the order be discharged, the Bill withdrawn and the subject matter thereof referred to the Standing Committee on Communications and Culture.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said amendment?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Amendment (Mr. Burghardt) agreed to.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion, as amended?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** Accordingly, the order is discharged, the Bill is withdrawn and the subject matter thereof is referred to the Standing Committee on Communications and Culture.

Bill withdrawn and order discharged.

### *The Disabled*

● (1600)

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

[English]

### DISABLED AND THE HANDICAPPED

#### ADVISABILITY OF MAKING TELEPHONES ACCESSIBLE

**Mr. Neil Young (Beaches)** moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government, in pursuance of a policy that will ensure that all disabled Canadians have the same opportunity to participate fully in all of the employment, recreational, consumer, educational, community and domestic activities which characterize everyday Canadian society, should consider the advisability of introducing legislation that would require all telephones being produced in Canada or imported into Canada to be fully accessible to hearing-impaired Canadians.

He said: Mr. Speaker, my motion arises from a decision which was made on November 23, 1982, by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission. In that decision the CRTC refused to require that all telephones should be compatible with hearing aids. Hon. Members on all sides of the House will know that many people with hearing aids use a telephone switch or T-switch on the hearing aid to improve access to telephones. The T-switch enables the hearing aid to respond to the magnetic pulses of the telephone receiver, the part you hold to your ear. This feature improves reception. In short, it gives hard of hearing people better access to the telephone.

Admittedly, much of the argument which I am going to present is of a rather technical nature. However, it is necessary to go through it in order to allow Hon. Members to understand exactly what the problem is. In arriving at its decision, the CRTC dealt a severe blow to the hearing impaired, indeed, to the whole thrust of achieving full accessibility to the disabled community generally. In fact, this decision will have serious implications for the hearing impaired, that it has been appealed to the federal Cabinet by the Canadian Co-ordinating Council on Deafness, the Canadian Hearing Society, the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association and the Hard of Hearing Club of Ottawa. This petition has received wide public support from both individual Canadians and numerous organizations. Among those organizations is the Canadian Labour Congress, the Laurentian University School of Social Work, the National Union of Provincial Government Employees, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the Public Service Alliance of Canada, the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario and the Canadian Federation of Communication Workers, to name but a few.

The reason for this massive support, Mr. Speaker, is apparent to anyone who cares to look at the issue carefully. Hearing loss in Canada is one of our most common physical disabilities. About a million and a half Canadians have some degree of hearing loss. It is estimated that some 200,000 Canadians are profoundly deaf. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the Department of National Health and Welfare has estimated that of those who are not profoundly deaf, some 550,000 Canadians have a significant hearing impairment in both ears.