

*Establishment of Little League Week*

This incident has demonstrated to me, and should have demonstrated to CMHC, that what is now needed in Canada, more than anything else, is serious research into the development of inexpensive sewage disposal plants. Less costly disposal units are desperately needed. I hope that when the minister responsible for the implementation of Bill C-144 decides on priorities, he will give first priority to the development of inexpensive sewage disposal plants. I hope he will at the same time establish an apparatus through which we can make available information concerning the least expensive type of sewage disposal facilities which can be made available to all the municipalities of Canada. I am convinced that this would be the best first step the minister could take in implementing the attack on water pollution which is the objective of this bill.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. It being four o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's Order Paper, namely, public bills.

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS****SPORTS****MEASURE TO ESTABLISH LITTLE LEAGUE WEEK**

**Mr. E. F. Whelan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Forestry)** moved that Bill C-22, respecting Little League Week, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs.

He said: Mr. Speaker, this bill was introduced during the previous Parliament by my colleague, the hon. member for Windsor West (Mr. Gray). He has since been promoted to a higher position but retains an interest in the Little League and is desirous that we do something with this Bill. I agreed that I would reintroduce it in this Parliament. In the city of Windsor, which we represent, many dedicated people are doing a tremendous job in connection with the Little League organization. We have watched this program closely and have seen the wonderful things they have done in helping young boys become better citizens.

● (4:00 p.m.)

Little League baseball is an avenue through which early training, teamwork, sportsman-

ship, discipline and character-building are instilled. The volunteer leaders in Little League baseball, certainly those I know personally in my area, have made the program part of our way of life. It does one's heart good to see the tremendous crowds that follow Little League baseball games and participate in the program.

Little League baseball boys have the opportunity to play the game under advantageous conditions. This contributes to their welfare. More than 750 Little Leaguers have joined the ranks of professional baseball players in the United States, and thousands more continue to play the game at high school and on the sandlots. These people assume leadership in all walks of life. I was a baseball player when I was young. I do not say that it gave me great leadership ability, but I know it helped me become a better politician.

Little League baseball not only fosters friendship among boys; it develops co-ordination and good health habits. It also breaks down social barriers and makes for a more closely-knit community. It knows no national boundaries, because leagues have developed in 27 countries and baseball is played with equal enthusiasm everywhere. Little League baseball also fosters the healthiest kind of father-son relationship. Through baseball father and son meet on common ground from which blooms companionship, respect and love. All parents strive to give their youngsters a happy childhood that will prepare them for the ups and downs of life. The Little League is only one avenue of reaching this goal.

The managers, coaches and other officials of the league who devote so much of their time, thought and energy to providing constructive direction for the boys, deserve our respect and gratitude. I do not think they are seeking too much when they ask that the second week in June be designated as Little League Week in recognition of the efforts of the Little League to help boys develop qualities of good citizenship and sportsmanship through baseball and to make them better citizens.

Over 2½ million boys take part in Little League baseball in Canada and in 23 other countries. Canada has more Little Leagues than any country with the exception of the United States. In Canada nearly 50,000 boys participate, with the assistance and guidance of over 7,000 adult volunteers. I would ask the House to favourably consider this bill.

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster):** Mr. Speaker, although not a heavy-hitter