

Railway Act

I know that other Members want to make some remarks. I will not take up any more of the time of the House of Commons. Thank you again for recognizing me the second time around. I do not mind. It is all in the interest of progress in the House. I hope the Member for Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands will take the proposed amendment in good faith and that we can proceed and progress from here.

Mr. Fred McCain (Carleton-Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, I wish that the subject matter of this Bill were not constrained to the Transportation Act. Unfortunately, man has had to depend upon science for a great many purposes, one of which is to eat. We sometimes lose track of the fact that without chemistry, physics, and science we would not be able to produce enough food on this continent to eat. We are therefore dependent upon the scientists of mankind to deliver to us the ways and means of effecting a lot of services, including the production of our food. We need it in the forest protection program, as has been mentioned by my friend from Halifax. We need it in agriculture and we need it very badly in the processes which are discussed in this Bill, namely, keeping the right-of-way clear of debris, weeds, et cetera. We need it in the home if we do not wish to live with flies. We need it throughout our entire life.

It is unfortunate that very often we have been deprived of the use of certain scientific inventions and creations by virtue of the objections of some extremists in this world who have the proper motives. That motive is, of course, the better safety of mankind. When one responds to an extremist—and I am not referring to the Member for Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands at all—we do lose something which we need very badly. We have made a great deal of progress in the application of pesticide. What we still need in the worst way is a proper testing method which will establish the fact that a particular chemical is indeed safe if applied in a particular fashion and in particular concentrations.

When this subject matter goes to the Transport Committee, I would hope that all those in favour of that move would broaden their thought, not only as it applies to the right-of-way, but as it applies to household, farm, and forest use of pesticides. We have lost the use of chemicals which might have been very profitable for us to use. In some instances, we have lost the use of a pesticide due to a single accident by an applicator of pesticides who did not read the label or prepare the proper concentration. He may have sacrificed his own life through his carelessness. I agree that that is not good. However, we do not know what method we should be using for application. At the scientific forestry level we do not know what droplet size is safe and practical for the application of a pesticide. Today we have mechanical means by which we can apply pesticides with virtually no possible drift. However, these methods are not generally in use. If they were in use with most of the pesticides presently being used, we would not be concerned about the drift to other areas.

The cost of manpower to eliminate the pests in various rights-of-way is prohibitive. We must, therefore, look at a safe method by which this can be done through pesticide use. I

would appeal to the Member to have that subject matter expanded to study the chemical, the diluent and the mechanical method of application. Can we bring to the conscience of Government the fact that we just do not have the knowledge that we need for safe pesticide use in Canada for the betterment of the entire human race?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): It has been moved by Mr. Forrestall, seconded by Mr. Crosby:

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

"Bill C-229, an Act to amend the Railway Act, be not now read a second time but that the order be discharged, the Bill withdrawn and the subject matter thereof referred to the Standing Committee on Transport."

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the amendment?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Amendment agreed to.

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

Order discharged and Bill withdrawn.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. The hour provided for the consideration of Private Members' Business has now expired.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 45 deemed to have been moved.

HUMAN RIGHTS—U.S.S.R. REPRESENTATIONS ON BEHALF OF JEWISH POPULATION

Mr. Bill Attewell (Don Valley East): Mr. Speaker, I rise under Standing Order 45. On March 26 in the House I asked the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) if he intended to have the tragic plight facing many Jews living in Russia on his agenda when he visited Russia. I was assured by the Secretary of State for External Affairs that, yes, he did