

the way through the appeal process to the negotiation of sale, lease or other arrangements for the building. Unless such time limits are set, the process is vulnerable to sabotage, whether wilful or unintentional, through inordinate delays in action on the part of one or more parties to the process.

Bill C-211 is in fact on the "right track" and I make the following suggestions which Hon. Members or the committee may wish to consider. First, other buildings under federal jurisdiction perhaps should be considered. Indeed, it would be my hope that they would be.

Second, responsibility for heritage designation should be assigned to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. Under its current set-up the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada is not equipped to fulfil the responsibility of heritage designation. Perhaps the Government might be persuaded to consider the reconstitution of the Board to allow for this.

• (1750)

Third, Mr. Speaker, identification of an appropriate agency that would pay the cost of preservation of such heritage buildings after they are no longer required for their primary purpose, such as railway stations in the case of the Hon. Member for Bow River's Private Member's Bill. Again, we may want to suggest time limits or conditions for the negotiation of sale, lease or other transfer of the building to a preserving agency.

Fourth, the Bill requires the Historic Sites and Monuments Board to hold a hearing for every application. I might suggest that, if written evidence submitted to the designated agency suffices, we could dispense with hearings for every single application and rely upon the history built up by the designating agency, and allow them to make the primary determination.

Having said what I have said, I am sure Hon. Members will agree that the Minister of Transport (Mr. Mazankowski) would not be an appropriate designated authority for heritage matters even as they may pertain to railway stations. Although railways fall under his jurisdiction, it has been found to be both efficient and prudent that certain aspects of the railway business, such as taxation and the environment, be governed by legislation under the jurisdiction of other Ministers. We in Transport believe that heritage is one such aspect which perhaps could be better dealt with by another agency.

I have outlined some of our concerns over the Hon. Member's proposed Bill. These are concerns generated within the Department. I know that were the Minister here he would commend as highly as all others have the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor) on bringing this matter to our attention. I am confident the House would want to see the subject matter referred to the Standing Committee and I repeat for his edification what I said a few moments ago, that the reason it is going to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry is that is the appropriate committee to deal with matters of the environment, within which this issue falls. The Bill commends itself. We have been chastized in the House today for

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having given undertakings during the election campaign, indeed in the months and, for some of us, in the years prior to that, but for not having moved immediately. This is one area that is important to Canada, a matter of great importance to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) and Cabinet generally. There are priorities, I suggest to the Hon. Member. We have only been in government for seven or eight months; give us a little while and we will do it because there is genuine concern on this side of the House about matters such as this. Thank you for allowing me to participate.

**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. Gurbin, seconded by Mr. Fretz:

That Bill C-211 be not now read the second time but that the subject matter thereof be referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry; and that accordingly the Bill be withdrawn.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Amendment (Mr. Gurbin) 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 Fisheries and Forestry.

Order discharged and Bill withdrawn.

[*Translation*]

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

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## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

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