

proper description of the electoral district if it were called Huron-Middlesex.

We have had bills similar to this before, and there has been some objection to them from this side of the house. However, all the previous bills have been passed, and I trust that this one will receive favourable consideration.

It may be wondered why this change is needed at this time. I can only say that originally it was felt there would be a redistribution bill in this session of Parliament, and they have been waiting for that. When it became obvious that there was not to be a redistribution bill there did not seem to be any urgency about having the change made. In recent weeks, due to certain circumstances, there has been a feeling of urgency that if the name is to be changed it should be done now.

I may say that the bill was passed by the other place without debate in the course of a very few minutes.

Hon. Mr. Lafond: Honourable senators, I have already on several previous occasions recorded my opposition to bills of this nature. Whether they be moved from this side of the house or the other side of the house, my objection stands. To my mind, they serve no positive or constructive purpose whatsoever. They do, however, serve to complicate the operation of our electoral process through the Chief Electoral Officer.

To introduce bills of this nature, particularly in a week such as this, seems to me to betray an utter lack of faith in the effectiveness of any action the Opposition is contemplating in the other place within the next 48 hours. Given that, it seems to me that the heads of many civil servants which, according to this morning's *Gazette*, Senator O'Leary would like to see roll can probably rest easy on Wednesday night, the next night, the next night and the next night.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: Honourable senators, I shall deal with the bill and not be irrelevant. My position on these bills is well known. I do not expect the Senate to give this bill any other treatment than it has given similar bills that have come to us. In principle I am opposed to names such as this. I think a single name is best. However, if it has to pass, let it pass.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Mr. Denis: Honourable senators, using the logic of the Leader of the Opposition, I wonder whether it would not be more simple to have his party called "Conservative" instead of "Progressive Conservative".

[*English*]

Motion agreed to and bill read second time, on division.

THIRD READING

The Hon. the Speaker pro tem: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Senator Macdonald, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(b), moved that the bill be read the third time now.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time and passed.

[*Hon. Mr. Macdonald.*]

● (1500)

BILL C-281 (MIDDLESEX)—FIRST READING

The Hon. the Speaker pro tem informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-281, respecting the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act.

Bill read first time.

SECOND READING

The Hon. the Speaker pro tem: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read a second time?

Senator Macdonald, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 44(1)(f), moved that the bill be read the second time now.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time, on division.

THIRD READING

The Hon. the Speaker pro tem: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Senator Macdonald, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(b), moved that the bill be read the third time now.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time and passed, on division.

LAND USE

INQUIRY—DEBATE CONTINUED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Norrie calling the attention of the Senate to the question of land use in Canada.—(Honourable Senator Langlois).

Hon. Mr. Martin: Senator Bonnell wishes to speak.

Hon. Mr. Langlois: I am happy to yield to Senator Bonnell.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tem: Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Hon. Lorne Bonnell: Honourable senators, in my opinion, land use in Canada is basically one of the rights of the provinces. Therefore there is very little that we members of the Senate or the federal government can do concerning this important and vital matter. I further believe that land use presents one of the great crises facing us today, and is probably equal in importance to the energy crisis.

Many people get uptight over land ownership. It does not bother me so much who owns the land, but rather what use they make of it. Under the old British law, a man's home was his castle and his land was his own. For governments, whether they be federal or provincial, to interfere with the rights of the individual is a very serious matter. We must never forget that the collective right of us all is more important than the individual rights of each or any one of us. Probably the best and most important way to control land use is through zoning for specific use.