

*Private Members' Business*

ministerial staffs will say they cannot find any record of the correspondence, discussions or whatever. In addition, as you will be aware, after Bill C-280 received its first reading, it went to the private members' draw. It was drawn and went to the private members' business committee. They agreed that it should be votable, but then it went to the House management committee. I believe they acted on the mistaken belief that this bill could not be passed without prior consent of the provinces, and decided that it would not be votable.

A few days after that, I met with the minister's staff and with the department staff and they told me there was no need to get the provinces' approval in advance. This bill could be passed, it just would not take effect until the provinces agreed. If the provinces never agreed, then it would never take effect.

That makes a lot of sense to me. If there were any concerns about problems with federal-provincial relations, surely the government could always say this is a private member's initiative and has nothing to do with the government. If you do not like it you cannot blame us because it is that rotten Redway who has introduced this bill, not us in the government.

Whatever it is, as I stand here in front of you today, this bill is not votable because it was turned down by the House management committee. Apparently we are going to go on year after year after year, one Mr. Stoyanoff after another. Dozens and hundreds and thousands perhaps of disabled people are not going to be able to get the benefit of the contributions they have made because apparently their contributions are now going to subsidize somebody else's pension under the provisions of the bill as it now stands.

It seems to me this is a real injustice. There is a way to correct it and there is a way to correct it tonight.

Robert Kennedy used to say: "Some men see things as they are and say why, but I dream dreams that never were and say why not?" Tonight we have a chance collectively, as members of Parliament representing Canadians, to say: "Why is this injustice happening? It is too bad we cannot do anything about it". Or we can say: "There is something we can do about it, why not do something about it". *Pourquoi pas?* Let us do something about it tonight.

With that in mind, I would like to seek the unanimous consent of the House to adopt the following motion:

That notwithstanding any standing orders and usual practices of the House, Bill C-280, an act to amend the Canada Pension Plan Act disability pension, be referred after second reading to a Committee of the Whole instead of to the Legislative Committee F; and that, unless otherwise disposed of, no later than at the end of the time provided for the consideration of Private Members' Business today, any proceedings then before the House shall be interrupted and every question necessary to dispose of the said bill at all stages should be put forthwith and successively without further debate or amendment.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** The House has heard the motion tabled by the hon. member. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

Motion (Mr. Redway) agreed to.

**Mr. Dennis Mills (Broadview—Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, with the consent of the House, I would like to share my time with the critic for health and welfare.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** Is there unanimous consent that the opposition splits its time into two speeches?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** For five minutes the hon. member for Broadview—Greenwood.

**Mr. Mills:** Mr. Speaker, I would first of all like to salute the member for Don Valley East for this initiative. The member for Don Valley East and I share the community of East York together in downtown Toronto and the member is constantly working for his constituents. The Private Members' Business before us today is just another example of the member going out of his way to make sure that the best interests of his constituents are represented.

• (1720)

On the issue of disability pensions, the hon. member and I have shared many cases in our community where the red tape and technicalities so often cause deep pain for the people directly involved, their families and children. The member for Don Valley East is to be complimented again for this fabulous initiative.

I know in my own riding I have a case with the Baxevanis family where Mr. Baxevanis was helping his neighbours build their home. He was a craftsman carpenter and fell off the roof and broke his leg and hip in about 25 different places. For three years, because of the