

consent for blood samples to be taken. It can work both ways. If we are sober it will prove that alcohol was not a factor. If we are not sober, society ought to have the right to know that.

I would like to read one headline which I could have spent my entire allotted time reading from different papers across Canada. "Drunk driver gets 30 days for crash in which man died". Is not law something that should parallel the extent and seriousness of the crime? We climb irresponsibly into automobiles while inebriated. All across North America people are being killed at rates equal to or greater than that of war. We need another war, Sir. We need a war against drunken drivers. We need a war which will place a real deterrent against drunken driving. We need a war which will change our cultural mindset so that children attending high school dances will learn that they can have a good time without bragging later about how much they drank. We must learn that people can go to social events without alcohol being an essential ingredient. More importantly, we must recognize that we all have limits. We must realize that the laws are such that if we are inebriated we had best seek alternative transportation.

I brought this Bill to the House of Commons in hopes of raising the level of consciousness of this serious problem. I hope that Government Members and Members of the NDP will give it their full support. I can assure Members of all Parties that this issue is rising very much in the Canadian consciousness. In communities all across Canada there are growing concerns that something be done to curtail the extent of the use of alcohol while driving an automobile.

Mr. Maurice Foster (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to speak on Bill C-229. I would like to commend the Hon. Member for Crowfoot (Mr. Malone) for putting this Bill forward. In his speech he outlined the tremendous carnage, hardship, death and destruction which takes place on our highways every night due to alcohol and impaired driving. On February 7 the Minister of Justice (Mr. MacGuigan) tabled Bill C-19 which deals with the same topic. There can be no doubt that those families that have lost children and loved ones due to impaired driving on our highways are more conscious of this serious social problem.

I will stand down for Royal Assent, Mr. Speaker.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

[English]

A message was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Deputy to the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable House in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Criminal Code

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the House went up to the Senate chamber.

And being returned:

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that when the House went up to the Senate Chamber, the Deputy Governor General had been pleased to give in Her Majesty's name the Royal Assent to the following Bills:

Bill C-21, an Act to provide borrowing authority;

Bill S-10, an Act to amend the Act of incorporation of United Grain Growers Limited.

PUBLIC BILLS

[English]

CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING PENALTIES FOR DRUNK DRIVERS

The House resumed consideration of the Motion of Mr. Malone, that Bill C-229, an Act to amend the Criminal Code (drunk driving), be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Malone: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. A few moments ago you were kind enough to give us a good tour down the hallway to the Senate. I wonder if you might also seek unanimous consent that the amount of time that was lost in so doing might be extended to Private Members' hour. I know that government Members certainly would not want to talk my Bill out, and I am sure the Member for Algoma (Mr. Foster) and the Members of the NDP would agree it is a good Bill and one that is needed.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent to extend Private Members' hour to 11 minutes past six?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There does not appear to be unanimous consent.

Mr. Foster: Mr. Speaker, when the Hon. Member spoke to his Bill C-229, he said that there really needs to be an increased awareness of the problem of drinking and driving in this country. I believe that is very true. I believe that debating this Bill before the House this afternoon will strengthen that awareness and hopefully will result in legislation being implemented by the House.

He pointed out in his speech that the cost in human terms of alcohol related deaths was some 2,500 a year and \$2.5 billion in property loss.