Patent Act

On Monday, when the House returns from the remembrance week adjournment, we will call Bill C-77, the emergencies Bill, followed by Bill C-54, and hopefully there will be a designated opposition day sometime later that week.

Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, in the spirit of Guy Fawkes Day, there has been an agreement among all Parties that we would ring the bells prior to 3.30 p.m. and the vote will take place precisely at 3.30 p.m. I would suggest that as soon as we are through with routine business, we ring the bells and come back to vote at 3.30 p.m.

POINT OF ORDER

DESIGNATION OF PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO MINISTER OF JUSTICE

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Justice while he is in the House a question with respect to the status of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice, or the absence of a Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice. The Prime Minister's Office had in fact issued a press release indicating that the Hon. Member for Cambridge (Mr. Speyer) was appointed as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice. He is a very distinguished Member and certainly many of us look forward to working with that Member in this important area of parliamentary responsibility.

However, I note that *Hansard* from yesterday, which lists the Parliamentary Secretaries, makes no reference to the Hon. Member for Cambridge in the list of Parliamentary Secretaries. I would like to ask through you, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister of Justice would clarify this omission and indicate just exactly who is the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, there was a press report that came out. I am not aware of any other dispatches or documents published by the Prime Minister's Office. Certainly, there were press reports with respect to the appointment of the Hon. Member for Cambridge as my Parliamentary Secretary. This is not correct. I regret that in the sense that I agree with the Hon. Member for Burnaby that the Hon. Member for Cambridge is a very distinguished Member and one who would be a great asset as a Parliamentary Secretary, as he was for a period of time with me previously.

However, the position still remains vacant primarily because it is the most sought after position as Parliamentary Secretary and there are such a lot of people applying for the job. I guess the decision is rather hard to come by.

I am hoping that someone will be appointed at an early time, but I am now being well served by the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Hawkes)

who will assist me in that capacity for the foreseeable future until a Parliamentary Secretary is appointed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

PATENT ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND—CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

The House resumed from Wednesday, November 4, consideration of the amendments made by the Senate to Bill C-22, an Act to amend the Patent Act and to provide for certain matters in relation thereto;

And the motion of Mr. Andre:

That a Message be sent to the Senate to acquaint Their Honours that this House agrees with amendment 18(b) made by the Senate to Bill C-22, an Act to amend the Patent Act and to provide for certain matters in relation thereto, but disagrees with all other amendments except amendment 13(a),

(b), (c), and (d), 14(a), (b), (c) and (d) and amendment 16(a) because this House believes that amendments 4(b), 11, 12, 15(a), (b), and (c), 16(b), (c), (d) and (e), 17(a) and (b) and 18(a) are in contradiction to the fundamental principles of the Bill and undermine the objectives of the policy.

More specifically:

Amendments 4(b), 11 and 12 change the coming into force of the sections thereby jeopardizing all of the research and development commitment of the industry, and are therefore not acceptable;

Amendments 15(b), (c) and 18(a) remove flexibility from the Patented Medicines Prices Review Board inconsistent with the design of such regulatory agencies and are therefore inconsistent and not acceptable;

Amendment 15(a) arises out of Senate amendments 13 and 14 and is therefore inappropriate;

Amendment 16(b), (c), (d) and (e) and 17(a) and (b) arise out of amendments 13, 14, and 16(a) which are proposed for further amendment by this House in this Message. Therefore the Senate amendments are inappropriate

And that Senate amendments 13(a), (b), (c), (d), and 14(a), (b), (c) and (d) be amended to read as follows:

That Clause 15 of Bill C-22 be amended,

- (a) by adding, immediately after line 36 on page 13, the following:
- "(1.1) Where, in the opinion of the Board, a patentee of an invention pertaining to a medicine has, within such period as is prescribed, increased the price at which the medicine is sold in any market in Canada by a percentage in excess of the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, as published by Statistics Canada under the authority of the Statistics Act, for that period, the Board may, by notice in writing, require the patentee to provide the Board with such information and documents concerning the costs of making and marketing the medicine as the Board may specify and as is available to the patentee in Canada or is within the knowledge or control of the patentee, and on the receipt of any such notice, the patentee shall comply therewith within such time as the Board may specify."
- (b) by striking out line 45 on page 13 and substituting the following: "tion (1) or (1.1),"
- (c) by adding, immediately after line 33 on page 17, the following:
 - "(5.1) Where, in the opinion of the Board, a patentee of an invention that is a medicine has, within such period as is prescribed, increased the price