

[Translation]

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, after consultation with opposition parties, I think there is unanimous consent to proceed with consideration of Bill C-41 at all stages in a very short period. The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Young) would simply have a very brief remark to make before passage of this bill at all stages.

[English]

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, speaking for my party, I can confirm that there have been such discussions. This bill, as the parliamentary secretary will point out, just makes changes to clear up a few anomalies. It does not have any effect in terms of substance. A draft of the bill was considered in committee before the bill itself was introduced. We see no reason why we should not deal with it completely this afternoon. We are prepared to give it second reading, have it referred to committee of the whole and give it third reading.

May I say that one of these Friday afternoons, when we seem to be able to do so well, I hope the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) will come in with his bill affecting the rates of pensions, and he will see how fast we get that through.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): We would need unanimous consent of all hon. members to change the wording of the motion to go into committee of the whole. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): It is so ordered.

Mr. Roger Young (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, just to recap briefly and as a courtesy to hon. members, hon. members will recall that some few months ago I tabled in the House a document entitled "Proposal to correct certain anomalies, inconsistencies, archaisms" and so on. As the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) has said, it was subsequently referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. It was studied by that committee on the understanding that the proposals contained in that document, which were accepted by the committee, would then become the bill which we presently have before us. The bill before us contains proposals accepted by all members of the standing committee.

I should point out as a courtesy to hon. members that in the bill as printed there is one less clause compared to the report which was tabled by the chairman of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. The clause which is missing has been deleted from the bill. It had to do with the appointment of auditors to Central Housing and Mortgage Corporation.

The Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Ouellet) requested subsequent to the report and the proposals being brought into the House, and prior to the printing of the bill,

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that that clause be deleted at the request of hon. members on both sides of the House. As a courtesy to hon. members, the minister does not wish to proceed with that clause at the moment.

All clauses in the bill have been thoroughly studied by the justice and legal affairs committee. I hope the bill will be approved expeditiously in all stages this afternoon.

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the parliamentary secretary for the kindness of his consultation with me with regard to this bill and with particular reference to the amendment dealing with the auditor of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. I understand it was the hon. member for Ottawa-Carleton (Mrs. Pigott), the urban affairs critic of this party, who led in the concurrence of the request to the minister with regard to that matter. That is perfectly acceptable.

Mr. Young: There were one or two.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): The parliamentary secretary has indicated there were one or two. He is quite right with respect to that.

This is housekeeping legislation. It is a good idea for us from time to time to go through the statutes of Canada and pick out the anomalies and changes that should be made, those things that drive lawyers crazy and do not help in the relationship between clients and their lawyers. It is very difficult for solicitors to explain to their clients anomalies and inconsistencies.

Mr. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi): It drives the public crazy.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): I know that the hon. member opposite is a client. I do not know whether he is a lawyer. In any event, it is good to get this kind of thing straightened out. Bearing in mind this is housekeeping legislation, it is appropriate that so soon before the House we all keep is dissolved and we go our separate ways we should be dealing with this kind of legislation. We are quite prepared to agree that this bill should go through all stages today in this place. When concurrence is called for, I am prepared to consent on behalf of Her Majesty's opposition.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time, considered in committee, reported, read the third time and passed.