Solar Energy

For these reasons I support the bill and hope it will receive the wholehearted approval of the House, the committee and the other place. I trust that the work of this institute, if it is set up with the co-operation of all sections of the Canadian people and of all levels of government, will make a useful contribution to what I believe can be part of the solution to the energy crisis which confronts not only Canada but every country in the world.

[Translation]

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, first of all I will say that I will be brief because there is not much time left and I would not want, like those in the government, to kill such an important bill by talking until six o'clock. I would like to congratulate the hon. member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia) for having introduced Bill C-210, which aims at establishing an institute to study solar energy.

Mr. Speaker, I have often made recommendations and requests in this House to promote a much more extensive use of solar energy. As everyone knows, the sun is a marvellous celestial body which holds a lot of energy and sends us heat and light. I have often asked the House to pass legislation to implement Daylight Saving Time. Strangely enough, my colleagues opposite have always refused to study this question even though this procedure was used advantageously during the war, and more recently, the United States implemented Daylight Saving Time as an experiment and a study showed that this resulted in a 2.5 per cent savings on oil and electricity. Mr. Speaker, when we know that we now use an enormous amount of energy in all areas, we can see that 2.5 per cent can mean a lot of money, and if we had taken such an action, we would certainly have avoided the emergency bill now under consideration.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I suggest that instead of confusing the population twice a year, in the spring and in the fall, when we have to set our watches back one hour, we should do like every other creature in the universe and take advantage of the sun, especially during the summer and also at this time of the year when the sun rises earlier. This would certainly save a lot of energy.

I conclude by saying that I hope the motion of the hon. member will be passed by this House and the Senate and that the government will finally decide to commission the necessary research in the field of solar energy.

Mr. Pierre Bussières (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, I shall be very brief. First of all I should like to congratulate the hon. member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia) for the determination and tenacity he has shown in the study of renewable sources of energy and for his imaginativeness in introducing this bill. I should also like to point out that we understood full well the reservations of the Chair on whether or not this bill is in order. Still, we are quite

in favour of this bill being read the second time, while keeping in mind the reservations that have been expressed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works.

• (1800)

[English]

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Just before calling it six o'clock I should like to draw attention to how courteous we on this side of the House are when it comes to private members' bills. I would hope hon. members on the other side will take note and allow some of our bills to go through.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Hear, hear!

Mr. Railton: Mr. Speaker, I think the point is well taken. We have seen a display of courtesy on the part of the whip on the other side, which I hope will continue even during the other debates in the House. Thank you very much.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: As we are approaching six o'clock, by unanimous consent, the hour provided for the consideration of private members' business has now expired. I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock this evening.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

• (2010)

[English]

ENERGY SUPPLIES EMERGENCY ACT, 1979

MEASURE TO CONSERVE STOCKS

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Gillespie that Bill C-42, to provide a means to conserve the supplies of energy within Canada during periods of national emergency caused by shortages or market disturbances affecting the national security and welfare and the economic stability of Canada, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works.

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to have an opportunity to speak on the Energy Supplies Emer-