

Last night, I honestly admit that it was a good thing they did not give hon. members a breathalyzer test because I swear there were a few who would have registered more than .08.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members, as is their right, are expressing some dissatisfaction with the bench yesterday. I will take them into consideration and see if I can be of some assistance. I am sure the hon. member would not want to go too far in those remarks.

BILL C-78

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches—Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, I believe we are still on House business. If we are, I have a question for the government House leader concerning Bill C-78. It is omnibus legislation dealing with a number of concerns to Canada's disabled population.

I understand the government wants to introduce the bill for second reading on Monday because there is some urgency to it and I accept that.

I would be willing on behalf of the New Democratic Party to assure the minister we would be prepared to pass that bill with one speaker per party and go through all stages at one time. Unfortunately, because of a prior commitment I cannot be here Monday but I and the NDP caucus would certainly be willing to do that on Tuesday.

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the offer of the hon. member. I do know this particular piece of legislation emerged really from an all-party committee under the chairmanship of my friend and colleague, the member for Oxford.

I know there is wide support generally. We have not been able to get the unanimous support needed to treat the bill at all three stages. We will continue to try, but that remains an obstacle. I cannot commit to the hon. member that we will proceed in that way, but I will commit to try to seek that kind of procedure.

The hon. member has been one of the staunchest supporters and workers on this and I appreciate his desire to be here. I hope he will appreciate it is not to keep him out of the involvement that we scheduled it for Monday. The problem is the House adjourns on June 23 and there is so much legislation to go through. I need to

plan around ministerial schedules and hopefully around the schedules of critics in the opposition.

• (1520)

I will take his representation. We will see what we can do. I know the hon. member has contributed substantially to the development of this legislation and I would like him to be here to speak on its behalf.

Mr. Young (Beaches—Woodbine): Mr. Speaker, I want to make it absolutely clear I do not view it being necessary that I be present on Monday, if that is the timetable that is established. My caucus would still be committed to passing the bill at all three stages with one speaker per party on Monday.

WESTRAY COAL MINE DOCUMENTS

Mr. Lyle Kristiansen (Kootenay West—Revelstoke): Mr. Speaker, I want to address a point to the government House leader. The Minister for Small Businesses and Tourism stayed in the House for some time but had to leave because of other commitments.

This has to do with the tabling of documents regarding Westray this morning. There were a substantial number of items that we believe should have been included in those documents to be tabled this morning, particularly those arising from question No. 437 which was put on the Order Paper by my colleague, the member for Churchill, in December 1990 and answered in part on March 18, 1991.

At that time, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister said that correspondence and calls received by the office of the Prime Minister regarding the Westray coal mine project are noted and forwarded to the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology for his information and consideration.

The point to the government House leader is that in correspondence, the member for Churchill, the Official Opposition and I have asked that those documents be included among those that were tabled this morning, but they were not. I would ask the government House leader to indicate whether or not we might expect to have those tabled very soon.

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, what the hon. member has asked for is private correspondence between ministers.