

*Company of Young Canadians Act***GOVERNMENT ORDERS****COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS ACT**

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING STRUCTURE OF ORGANIZATION

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-176, to amend the Company of Young Canadians Act, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts.

Mr. Speaker: Before calling on the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants (Mr. McCleave), may I suggest that the first motion to be proposed by the hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose) bears on the same clause as does the motion in the name of the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants. I would like the House to consider the possibility of combining both motions for the purpose of debate, but that would require a separate vote to be taken on each motion. I have looked at both motions and it seems to me that it would be rather difficult to isolate the debate on each one of them, so that contributions to the debate on the first motion would be relevant to both motions, and, if required, a vote could be taken separately on each one of them.

In a preliminary way, I might suggest at this time that motion No. 3 on the notice paper in the name of the hon. member for Fraser Valley West may be defective. However, I am not making a ruling now. I hope that in the course of the debate hon. members might take a look at it and give advice to the Chair on the point I want to make. That motion proposes the deletion of clause 5 from the bill as reprinted. It seems to me that the purpose of clause 4 of the bill would be to restrict the activities of the Company of Young Canadians to and within Canada. The effect of deleting clause 5 of the reprinted bill would be to restore a provision in the original act which enabled the company to carry out certain activities at home or abroad. What I am suggesting now is that if the motion standing in the name of the hon. member were accepted by the House, obviously there would be a conflict between clauses 4 and 5, and that of course would be very difficult to countenance. We might at that point have to go back to clause 4, and I am not sure how that could be done. This is a technical difficulty which hon. members might like to con-

[Mr. Benson.]

sider, and when we get to that motion hon. members might like to argue either for or against the procedural point.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, as Your Honour suggested, perhaps we can postpone consideration of the question about motion No. 3, but I would like to indicate that we are quite happy with your ruling that motions Nos. 1 and 2 should be debated together but be voted on separately, if necessary.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will now put the first motion, and eventually when the debate has been concluded the second motion will also be put.

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants) moved:

That Bill C-176, an Act to amend the Company of Young Canadians Act, be amended by adding in section 4(1) in Clause 1, the words "of whom three shall be elected by volunteer-members and the remainder" after the word "members" in line 16 and deleting the word "who" in line 17.

He said: I think it would simplify things considerably if the Secretary of State (Mr. Pelletier) could simply nod his acceptance, following which I would be quite pleased to sit down. The Secretary of State not having nodded his acceptance but having shaken his head in rejection, I will carry on.

First of all, let me make it clear on behalf of my associates that we maintain our objections to the bill incorporating the Company of Young Canadians. We feel that as a viable organization it has lost its credibility in the country. The kindest thing to do—and we did suggest this before—would be to kill it, and, with proper studies, start something new which would involve the participation of youth. But that has not been the position the government has taken, and so we are forced to consider what our duties and responsibilities are in studying this legislation. I think that it is the duty of Members of Parliament, whether on the government side or in opposition, to try to improve the legislation that comes before them. Although we do object to the continuance of the Company of Young Canadians, none the less we will try to improve the bill and make the organization as viable as possible.

Under the present law, as set forth on the opposite page of the bill to the clause that is now being considered and my suggested