

is an example of where a private Member has been able to call enough attention to a particular issue to have the Government respond in the way in which the Hon. Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) did today.

I just wanted to put these two points on the record. I only hope that in future more of this kind of thing will happen and that those of us who are working on the special task force on parliamentary reform will be able to make suggestions which will enhance even more the role of the private Member.

**Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma):** Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Hon. Member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) for his initiative in bringing forward this Bill and carrying on the work of the late Walter Baker. I also want to congratulate the Minister. I am sure his officials put many arguments to him as to why we should not legalize this drug because of international conventions. This is when the common sense of politics and a free democratic society override officials.

We are all aware of circumstances involving cancer. In my wife's family, both her parents died of cancer. She works regularly as a volunteer at the cancer clinic here in Ottawa. Many families have experienced the trials and tribulations of losing family members to cancer and seeing incredible pain. I have also had representations from a very close friend of mine in Gore Bay on the Manitoulin Island whose first wife died of cancer several years ago. He has written me regularly, and I have regularly made representations to the Minister of National Health and Welfare to have this amendment carried out to legalize the use of heroin to alleviate pain, especially in terminally ill patients. I would like to add my voice of support and to congratulate those who are responsible for seeing this Bill put before the House. I will take my seat now so that the Bill can be carried.

● (1800)

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest):** It is now six o'clock. It is my understanding that the Hon. Member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) has a point of order.

**Mr. McGrath:** Mr. Speaker, with the permission of the House, I would like to take a few brief moments to withdraw the Bill by unanimous consent so that the Government can then get on with bringing in its own legislation pursuant to the statement made by the Minister today.

Perhaps you will permit me, Mr. Speaker, briefly to thank the Hon. Member for Scarborough West (Mr. Stackhouse), the Hon. Member for Oxford (Mr. Halliday), the Hon. Member for Vancouver East (Ms. Mitchell), the Hon. Member for Ottawa-Vanier (Mr. Gauthier), the Hon. Member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson), the Hon. Member for Gaspé (Mr. Marin), the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Birds Hill (Mr. Blaikie), the Hon. Member for Algoma (Mr. Foster) and the Minister for their kind personal references to me.

On behalf of the Canadian Medical Association, Dr. Ghent, and Dr. Kenneth Walker whose work was referred to by the Hon. Member for Oxford, on behalf of the hundreds of hundreds of dedicated men and women who are involved in

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pain management and palliative care, and perhaps to go even one step further, on behalf of the suffering of future patients who will benefit from this Bill, I would like to extend my thanks to the Minister and to the House. I think it is appropriate that the House and the Government should have acted in a spirit of generosity in this season of love.

I would therefore ask the unanimous consent of the House to have the order discharged and to withdraw Bill C-213, an Act to amend the Narcotic Control Act.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest):** Does the Hon. Member have that unanimous consent?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Order discharged and Bill withdrawn.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*Translation*]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 45 deemed to have been moved.

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY—ESTABLISHMENT OF GATIQ— GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mrs. Suzanne Duplessis (Louis-Hébert):** Mr. Speaker, I am both pleased and proud to have this opportunity to speak in the House today. I think it is a great privilege to have been chosen by a significant majority of the voters in the riding of Louis-Hébert to represent them in these venerable halls, and I am thankful for having been given this opportunity. I intend to spare neither time nor effort nor talents in serving my constituents. I know that I can count on God's help and on your understanding, Mr. Speaker, and that of all Members of this House, wherever they may be sitting. In turn, Mr. Speaker, I want to assure you and all my colleagues that you will have my loyal co-operation, and I intend to apply the utmost courtesy and dignity to my interventions here in the House.

My purpose in speaking to the House is to explain my interest in research and development, which has a long-term job creating function, and more specifically in the establishment of a hi-tech industrial park in my riding and how the various parties concerned are striving towards the same goal.

I would like to describe my riding to be able to explain the actions of various intervenors. My riding is located east of Quebec City along the St. Lawrence. It forms more or less the main entrance way to Greater Metropolitan Quebec, whether we approach this area by road, by railway or by air. The riding