

unprecedented rate. Once a resource has been depleted by money-hungry promoters, these promoters pull out with their fortunes and leave behind a hole in the ground and a large number of inhabitants who have no basic economy to which they can turn in order to make a living.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. It being four o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's Order Paper, namely, public bills, notices of motions and private bills.

• (4:00 p.m.)

### PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

#### CANADIAN NATIONAL POLLUTION AWARENESS WEEK

##### MEASURE TO MAKE PEOPLE AWARE OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-25, respecting Canadian National Pollution Awareness Week, as reported (without amendment) from the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works.

**Mr. Tom H. Goode (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta)** moved:

That Bill C-25, an act respecting Canadian National Pollution Awareness Week, be amended by deleting the long title and substituting therefor:

"An act respecting Canadian National Environment Week".

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion No. 1 (Mr. Goode) agreed to.

**Mr. Goode** moved:

That Bill C-25, an act respecting Canadian National Pollution Awareness Week, be amended by deleting clause 1 on page 1 and substituting the following therefor:

"1. This act may be cited as the Canadian National Environment Week".

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion No. 2 (Mr. Goode) agreed to.

**Mr. Goode** moved:

That Bill C-25, an act respecting Canadian National Pollution Awareness Week, be amended by deleting line 7 on page 1 and substituting therefor:

"every year, the second week in October shall"

**Some hon. Members:** Explain.

**Mr. Goode:** Mr. Speaker, this amendment is a move toward implementation of two important changes which I

#### Pollution Awareness Week

promised the members of the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works I would propose at the report stage.

Hon. members may remember that during the debate on second reading of Bill C-25 the feeling was expressed by a number of hon. members that the name of the proposed week be changed from Canadian National Pollution Awareness Week to Canadian National Environment Week. I believe that the suggestion was first made by the hon. member for Northwest Territories (Mr. Orange). The hon. member's reasoning was to the effect that such a change would emphasize the positive good to come from a clean environment, rather than the negative image of a polluted country. As I told the committee, I find this argument a compelling one. The word "environment" seems to encompass a broader range of activities and subject matters than the words "pollution awareness". In addition, I believe that such an amendment would also meet the objections of the hon. member for Madawaska-Victoria (Mr. Corbin) who pointed out a possible inconsistency between the French and English versions of the bill.

Several members commented during the debate on second reading on the suggested timing of the environment week. My proposal had been the second week in March, in line with the observance of pollution awareness week in my riding. In Burnaby-Richmond-Delta, in the second week of March we are well into spring and so the thought of environmental housekeeping is a very natural one. However, we have only to look outside the walls of this House to see that March is not likely to mean spring in all parts of this country, and for this reason alone it seems preferable to choose another time.

Another factor concerns National Wildlife Week which is established by statute as being the week which contains the date of April 10. There was some concern by the Canadian Wildlife Federation that the impact of each week would be lessened by virtue of their being so close together. The federation made clear that while it supported the proposed environment week, it would prefer the week to come at some time other than the spring of the year.

The members of the committee considered very carefully the two issues involved here, the change of name and the change of date. I believe it can be said that the proposed changes received the general support of all committee members. To avoid the possibility of becoming involved in certain procedural difficulties, it was decided by the committee that the bill would be reported without amendment provided that I would undertake to propose the necessary amendments at the report stage. I am fulfilling that commitment today.

Before resuming my seat I wish to express my very sincere thanks to those members from all parties who have shown that a matter as important as the preservation of our environment need not be made a partisan issue. A spirit of co-operation and selflessness has been evident during both the second reading debate and consideration of the bill in committee, and for this I am