

(5) For the purposes of paragraph(4)(b), "spouse", in relation to a person, includes the person of the opposite sex who cohabits at that time with the person in a conjugal relationship and

(a) has so cohabited with the person throughout a 12-month period ending before that time, or

(b) is a parent of a child of whom the person is a parent.

Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion in amendment?

**Some Hon. Senators:** Yes.

**Some Hon. Senators:** No.

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Will those honourable senators in favour of the motion in amendment please say "yea"?

**Some Hon. Senators:** Yea.

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Will those honourable senators opposed to the motion in amendment please say "nay".

**Some Hon. Senators:** Nay.

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** In my opinion, the "nays" have it.

**Senator Molgat:** On division.

Motion in amendment of Senator Cools negatived, on division.

#### MOTION IN AMENDMENT OF SENATOR CORBIN NEGATIVED

**Hon. Eymard G. Corbin:** Honourable senators, this morning, for breakfast, I had the beef stew I was supposed to have Wednesday evening. Given that we sat from 5 until slightly beyond 10 o'clock, I could not enjoy my wife's excellent cooking. As you all know, beef stew sometimes improves with age. I want to tell you that I am in great shape this morning.

• (1110)

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

**Senator Corbin:** However, I know that some unemployed people in Canada were not as fortunate as I was. It is on their behalf that I wish to stand and make some comments on Bill C-113.

Perhaps you will allow me to reflect for an instance on the remarks that Senator Di Nino made earlier with respect to his arriving late at the National Finance committee yesterday morning. Someone on that side said that we were simply

mischievous. In fact, one of the members over there said that it was just another damned Grit tactic. Frankly, if it was a tactic, it was quite a legitimate tactic, and one that the Chair recognized. Questions were duly put.

The funny thing about Senator Di Nino's excuses for not being on time is that there was a problem with the Senate bus, or something like that. There is Senator Di Nino. I can see that he can also walk.

**Senator Di Nino:** Very well, thank you.

**Senator Corbin:** We had stormy weather yesterday morning. I usually give myself some 15 minutes to come to work from my residence here in Ottawa, especially on days when I have committee assignments. That usually suffices. Yesterday morning, in view of the stormy weather, I left 45 minutes earlier to make sure that I did get here on time for my committee. In fact, I did. I barely made it, but I was there at about nine o'clock.

**Senator Olson:** You were there at nine o'clock!

**Senator Corbin:** I had much more road to cover than either Senator Di Nino or Senator Simard. In fact, my colleague Senator John Stewart, who is unavoidably absent today, tells me that he rarely takes the bus. He walks. It is good for his arteries and his thinking.

**Senator Hébert:** Maybe we should not sit when it snows!

**Senator Corbin:** I did not see Senators Di Nino or Simard walking with a cane or crutches yesterday. I think you have a pretty lame excuse. It is a crybaby excuse for not being there on time.

[Translation]

Honourable senators, as we debate this bill in what unfortunately, I must confess, seems to be its final phase, I received at 10:31 a.m. sharp this letter dated today and addressed to me, which reads:

Dear Senator:

This letter is to bring to your attention the fact that, as an organization representing unemployed men and women from the RCM Bas-Richelieu, in Quebec, we feel that the application of Bill C-113 is very arbitrary, especially regarding non-unionized employees. Some relaxation is needed to strike a balance between employers and employees.

In that respect, your intervention is essential to remedy this situation.

Your consideration of our request is greatly appreciated. Sincerely, —

And it is signed by Jean-Pierre Péloquin, President of the Regroupement des chômeurs, 324, boul. Fiset, Sorel, Québec, J3P 3R2.