

Private Members' Business

and calling for the kind of amendments I put forward today.

• (1640)

The same thing applies in terms of the aboriginal peoples. At committee those witnesses who came before us had the section of the act pointed out to them that the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice read into the record today. They did not feel that it went far enough. They felt it was still a question of whether or not they would be listened to in the event that there was a situation involving this act and lands to which they do not necessarily hold title, They do not necessarily have a specific land claim to which to point, but they are in the process of putting into legal framework their beliefs of traditional land use patterns, hunting patterns, and fishing patterns, et cetera.

I regret that the government did not choose to strengthen the bill. I do not think that we were trying to do anything that was not the government's intention, but we felt that it needed to be done in a slightly different way in order to provide that full protection for aboriginal peoples, the environment, and labour law.

Having said that, I will relinquish my place and proceed to taking the vote. As I say, we are voting in favour so there probably is no reason to do anything other than that.

Motion agreed to, bill read the third time and passed.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate has passed Bill C-75, an act for granting Her Majesty certain sums of money for the Public Service of Canada for the financial year ending March 31, 1991.

SITTING SUSPENDED

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I believe what we will have to do is suspend until five o'clock, Private Members' Hour, because at

this point the players in that show are not here. Perhaps we could suspend until five o'clock and reconvene then.

Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan): Mr. Speaker, just to make clear what happens for the rest of the day once Private Members' Business is over, I would assume we would then move to the adjournment debate and upon completion of the adjournment debate the sitting would be suspended as we have done in the past.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, that is agreed. In fact for those purposes I guess technically we would call it ten o'clock as soon as possible after the late show is finished.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I shall suspend the sitting until five o'clock.

The sitting of the House was suspended at 4.43 p.m.

[*Translation*]

SITTING RESUMED

The House resumed at 5 p.m.

Madam Deputy Speaker: It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to consideration of Private Members' Business, as indicated on today's Order Paper.

**PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BUSINESS—MOTIONS**

[*English*]

CHINESE IMMIGRATION ACT

REIMBURSEMENT OF HEAD TAX

Mr. Derek Lee (Scarborough—Rouge River) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should:

- 1) reimburse to all claimants who establish their entitlement as of November 21, 1988 the amount of the head tax imposed under the Chinese Immigration Act, 1885 (48-49 Victoria), as amended, together with an indemnity equal to six times the amount of the head tax paid;
- 2) where a person entitled to reimbursement and the indemnity is deceased, pay these amounts to the heirs and successors of that person who establish the entitlement of the deceased; and
- 3) acknowledge that the said statute was discriminatory against immigrants of Chinese origin and contrary to the principles now adopted and reflected in our Charter of Rights and Freedoms.