

Energy Program has seriously hurt the oil-servicing industry, and it is just beginning to have an impact on eastern manufacturing concerns. How can a government so callously sacrifice the jobs of Canadians for the sake of its interventionist policies? That is what really gets to me. At a time when Canadians are losing their homes and businesses by the thousands we see a government transfixed in its pursuit of a socialist philosophy which has failed in every country where it has been tried. I say this is tantamount to criminal negligence.

In conclusion, I suppose it is only fair to say that in 1975 the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) told us the way things will be. He said we have not been able to make the free market system work; the government will have to take a larger role in running institutions; that means there is going to be not less authority in our lives but more.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. It being 3.45 p.m., it is my duty to interrupt the proceedings pursuant to the order made Tuesday, June 9, 1981 and put forthwith every question necessary to dispose of the third reading and passage stage of the bill.

The question is on the amendment. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the amendment.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the amendment will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five members having risen:

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I understand there is agreement among the parties that the recorded division be deferred until 9.45 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 1981. Is that agreed?

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): That is agreed, Mr. Speaker. That is the essence of the agreement.

Mr. Knowles: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is so ordered.

It being 4 p.m., 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.

Human Rights

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

[English]

Orders Nos. 18, 22, 25, 29, 31, 32, 34, 36 and 41 stood by unanimous consent.

HUMAN RIGHTS

PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATION ON GROUNDS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre) moved that Bill C-242, to prohibit discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

She said: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to move that Bill C-242 be read the second time and sent to committee. The explanatory note in Bill C-242 points out that the 1979 annual report of the Canadian Human Rights Commission recommended to Parliament that, and I quote:

—sexual orientation be added to the proscribed grounds of discrimination under the Canadian Human Rights Act.

The purpose of this bill is to implement that recommendation and to extend the same principle to all areas of federal activity by making the appropriate amendments to the Canadian Bill of Rights and the Criminal Code.

I should add that following this report, Mr. Fairweather, the chairman of the commission, appeared before the constitutional committee to urge that protection from discrimination be extended to all Canadians, regardless of sexual orientation.

My purpose in presenting this bill is to help ensure that a minority group, which is estimated to number about two million people in Canada, has the same access to employment opportunities, to housing and to public services as do their fellow Canadians.

I am aware that the issue of sexual orientation is not a high priority for the majority of Canadians at the present time. It does not rate in the public mind with inflation, high interest rates and the restructuring of Confederation to give some provinces more rights than others, but it has become an important issue to those Canadians who are concerned about human rights, and since it deals with a phase of human rights which most Canadians ignore, I would like to tell the House how my own interest in the subject came about.

Before I ran as a candidate in the last two elections in Vancouver Centre, I had very little interest in the homosexual community and no awareness of the extent of the discrimination against this minority group. My attitude, if I thought about the issue at all, was a mild sympathy that these unfortunate individuals were not heterosexual. I believe that this attitude is common among those Canadians who consider themselves to be moderate, tolerant citizens.

• (1550)

However, during my campaign I came to know members of the homosexual community in my riding and became aware of