

natives what they have taken 16 years to accomplish, the reaching of a settlement that allows them to have the economic wherewithal to begin re-investment in the future, to encourage new development, new industry, any industry, and new employment opportunities to re-orientate and look into the long-term health ramifications. That is what we should have done, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately we did not. We as a society must accept the shame of that but we must learn from it.

As we are moving into an era that will see an evolution of self-government for our native people, we must keep those kinds of things in mind. We must ensure they have the wherewithal and the mechanisms to react. We as a society must continue to ensure that our native people are not faced with the situation in northern Canada seen in the last three or four months of mercury contamination in the Churchill, Hudson's Bay area and the finding of high levels of toxins in our wildlife. We must react and react quickly to protect the peoples and to ensure that we can replace their traditional livelihoods if those livelihoods are threatened or destroyed. We must do something that makes sense for them and is done in concert with them.

I am pleased the Bill is before us today. It is the closing of a chapter. I hope it leads to a very successful sequel to the residents of White Dog and Grassy Narrows so they too can rejoin the rest of Canada in having the right to a job, the opportunity for a job, the opportunity for an appropriate lifestyle conducive to the natural environment. Maybe some day we may even find that the English-Wabigoon River system having purified itself will once again be available for the harvesting of fish and thus return the traditional lifestyle to the native populations.

I congratulate the Minister for bringing this legislation forward. I know that, relatively speaking, the work the Minister has done has been done in a most compressed time. I compliment him for that. I compliment too members of the Fisheries and Forestry Committee who last year dealt with this issue and had the chiefs of the two bands before them. I would like to think that, along with the work of the Minister and the work of Mr. Justice Emmett Hall, that committee had some weight behind it to bring forward this agreement we have today together with the acceptance by companies of their responsibility to the peoples of north western Ontario. Congratulations, Mr. Minister. Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, Bill read the second time and, by unanimous consent, the House went into committee thereon, Mr. Danis in the Chair.

Clauses 2 to 7 inclusive agreed to.

Indian Bands Claims Settlement

On Clause 8—*Payments out of C.R.F.*

Mr. Penner: Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to debate this at all, but just for the information of the House, since this is the appropriation section and monies for the two bands are to be appropriated from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, can the Minister say whether he is able to advise the House as to the method in which these monies are to be paid? Will they be put into a trust fund in total at one time or is it to be over a period of time? If the Minister could provide that information to the House, we could then pass the Bill.

Mr. Crombie: Mr. Chairman, it is a staggered payment, the specifics of which I can give to the Hon. Member in the standing committee later this evening. Perhaps I could provide the information at that time.

Mr. Penner: Mr. Chairman, that is acceptable. Thank you.

Clause agreed to.

On Clause 9—*Coming Into Force.*

Mr. Angus: Mr. Chairman, I have just a quick question for the Minister. Is there a specific date in mind for the proclamation of the Act?

Mr. Crombie: Mr. Chairman, we would like to do it immediately. The effective date of this Bill is two months ago. The Bill will go through the normal procedure, but it will not affect the effective date.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported.

Mr. Crombie moved that the Bill be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

• (1750)

The Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development) moved that the Bill be read the third time and passed.

Motion agreed to and Bill read the third time and passed.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. President of the Privy Council (Mr. Hnatyshyn) has designated this coming Friday as an allotted day. Therefore, there will be no Private Members' Business. Accordingly, I have instructed the Table Officers that the item which was scheduled for Friday in the name of the Hon. Member for Cowichan—Malahat—The