

*Government Orders*

**Mr. Bill Domm (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister for Science):** Mr. Speaker, I suppose it would have been in order if I had asked a question before I went into my remarks. I was a little slow in standing. Could I ask a question prior to my remarks?

In general I tend to agree with the thrust of both opposition parties in their support for this bill. I also agree that there are other things that need to be done and will discuss that a little later.

I would like to ask a question of the member from Port Moody—Coquitlam who spoke.

When we in the justice committee were addressing this subject the then justice critic for the NDP announced his intention to introduce a bill. He wrote letters to people across Canada describing which changes he would support. This letter went out from the member for Burnaby—Kingsway. In his letter, he says:

There are too many steps in the appeal process and his bill would address that. The legal requirements that a fugitive who has been accused of an offence in Canada, not the extradition offence, or who has been convicted and sentenced for a crime in Canada, cannot be surrendered until after he or she has either been acquitted or has finished serving the sentence imposed by the Canadian court is unacceptable.

In other words, he wanted to change the bill to allow these people to be extradited during sentence. With those provisions in a bill the then justice critic would support it as a great step forward.

I wonder about the change of policy of the new critic. The NDP now do not want a bill until after everything is in it. All these things the member mentioned were not in the NDP's support for a bill. Only the two things that are in this bill were in the NDP's support for the bill. That letter went out to everyone including the Ottawa head office of Victims of Violence and other groups working to speed up the extradition process.

**Mr. Waddell:** Mr. Speaker, I am not sure what the member is getting at. He has been dogging this issue and I congratulate him. I do not agree with all of his positions but I congratulate him for his doggedness and determination. It is a good example to all members of the House.

Also, my riding is Port Moody—Coquitlam. I know some members have problems with it. Port Moody was the original terminus of the transcontinental railway. It is on the first part of the ocean that comes in by Vancouver

and then unfortunately they moved it a few years later to Vancouver and then Vancouver grew up. I am quite proud of Port Moody and that is why it is the name of the riding.

What we are after is a fair bill and it seems to me that we identified the problem, as the hon. member has. We cannot have a fellow charged with murder in the United States and waiting for extradition commit an offence to stay in Canada to avoid being extradited for as long as possible. The hon. member made that point at the committee. A guy in jail might assault a jail guard, might even kill a jail guard, to stay in Canada to avoid the death penalty or a harsher sentence somewhere else. That is one of the reasons. We were, as was he, trying to identify that as a problem.

As to there being another bill, that is what is happening. We are supporting this bill. We would like to see it all in one bill. We would like to see it all dealt with. I set out in my speech, as did the member for Moncton set out, the different issues that we must still approach. Do you really think that piracy is a crime in the Great Lakes but computer theft and viruses are not? We have to get this thing modernized.

As I pointed out, there are gaps. For example, the present world crisis, the Libyan situation in which we must get an international system of extradition with an international court. There are all these things to do but I think this bill is a first step. I am prepared to compromise a bit to get this bill passed and to support it. Is the hon. member going to do that? I look forward to hearing his speech on it.

**Mr. Bill Domm (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister for Science):** Mr. Speaker, to answer the question just prior to my remarks I am totally supporting this bill. This bill goes a long way toward dealing with cases similar to Ng's and Kindler's.

The Supreme Court decision that came down will enable us to move in a more expeditious fashion to get these persons extradited from Canada. I was a wee bit concerned about the qualifications put on to things that the member opposite would like, namely that he would like to take away the rights of funds from the federal government to challenge these matters to someone who is being extradited.