

*Registered Charities*

Today as we see the Ontario government being forced to curtail funding of a number of these organizations, the services are contracted. Unless they are able to replace those services, to be financed by independent funding, we will see an over-all cutback in the service provided by volunteer and charitable organizations.

I think we know that it is impossible for governments to provide all the services needed or desired by people in our society today. For that reason, it is very important for a government to try to be a catalyst through the various means that have been set out in Section 6 of Bill C-233, both the aid in kind and the increased support through funding.

I view Bill C-233 as a call for action, certainly not the delaying action which my friend to the left has stated, but as a mechanism that we might move ahead to provide a focus for the government to take action on the various proposals that have been put forward.

I encourage the government to accept the principles which have been established in Bill C-233, to refer it to committee where the particular objections of the government can be addressed in order to develop a bill which will be compatible with the government's objectives as well as those of the hon. member for Waterloo.

**Mr. Knowles:** Question.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Jean-Guy Dubois (Lotbinière):** Mr. Speaker, what struck me in looking at Bill C-233 in the name of my friend opposite, the hon. member for Waterloo (Mr. McLean), was subclause 6(3), which says that in this section, "registered charity" has the same meaning as in the Income Tax Act. This leads me to believe, Mr. Speaker, that it is all very well to introduce such a bill which can have—my hon. colleague has certainly great ideas with regard to this bill, but when it comes to the voluntary sector, we must refer you to existing organizations, and this is the basis of my argument. We must not always depend upon the government. Charities already have available to them various mechanisms to obtain assistance. In my constituency, I had to intervene and make representations

to the Department of National Revenue so that certain organizations could be recognized as charities under the terms of the Income Tax Act and be able to give out receipts for income tax purposes. As I had to take care of a few such cases myself, Mr. Speaker, my colleagues no doubt both on this side of the House and on the other side have had to check with the Department of National Revenue for the licensing of some organizations. I was thinking about two examples in my own constituency, Entraide Sainte-Victoire and Fondation Hôtel-Dieu d'Arthabaska. These are voluntary organizations, groups of people who take care of various sectors. The latter is made up of people who would use the provisions of the bill to bring financial assistance to a hospital in providing equipment not supplied by the government because of budgetary restrictions. What did we do? We asked the Quebec government to issue a charter approved by the Department of Social Affairs, and we also asked the Department of Revenue to approve this organization as a registered charity so that it could issue donation receipts for income tax purposes. This is one type of assistance provided by the government and, of course, the provincial governments do the same.

In this regard, I see that the bill would replace the voluntary organizations, which still have a role to play, and the government does not always have to help them. With regard to postal charges, I was very interested in the bill to establish a Crown corporation. In fact, it was proposed that no additional organizations could enjoy special rates.

Mr. Speaker, may I call it five o'clock?

[*English*]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** Order, please. The hour provided for private members' business has now expired.

It being five o'clock, this House stands adjourned until Monday next at 2 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).

I might mention that the Minister of State for Mines (Mrs. Erola) has asked me to extend on her behalf good wishes for a pleasant weekend to all members.

At 5 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.