

MR. ALLAN ROSENZVEIG (LEGAL COUNSEL, CANADIAN RADIO TELEVISION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION): It was appealed as far as the Federal Court of Appeal. The commission considers this is good law; we are not worried about it; we are confident about it. The same question arose in the Senate committee discussion on consideration of this bill and we said we were satisfied with it at that time.

Further, dealing with the Saudi Arabia question of whether or not offshore contracts would be subsidized by domestic telephone users, the Hon. Member for Mount Royal asked the following question:

Saudi Arabia—we went there. I want to know how much we cost the Canadian telephone user. Can you get the information organized in the way you want?

MR. ROSENZVEIG: We feel we could with clause 12. If it was enacted it would then allow us to get information through BCE from anyone BCE controls, namely, Bell's affiliates. If we add the word "affiliate" we think it might wash backward and disturb the principles expressed by the Federal Court of Appeal in the Interprovincial Pipe Line case to the effect that a regulator can get the information it requires to regulate the utility through anyone controlled by the utility. Clause 12 would put us in the same position vis-à-vis BCE and anyone it controls.

The Hon. Member for Mount Royal went on to say:

I see. You feel if we leave the provision as it is, it would capture the concerns we might have.

MR. J. LAWRENCE: That is right. As presently interpreted by the court—and that is a court ruling of the Federal Court of Appeal. It is a very high court.

I wanted to put that on the record to ensure that Hon. Members understand that evidently the CRTC is happy with Clause 12 as it now stands and advises against any amendment. The CRTC has considerable experience in regulating Bell Canada. If the CRTC is happy with that clause, I for one am prepared to accept it and to pass judgment on it by voting against the amendment.

## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[Translation]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 66, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Mississauga North (Mr. Horner)—Narcotics—Increase in drug abuse—Government position; the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier)—Royal Canadian Mounted Police—Situation of francophones—Inquiry whether Solicitor General has action plan. Reduction in francophone manpower; the Hon. Member for York East (Mr. Redway)—Parole—British Columbia experiment using electronic monitoring ankle bracelets.

## Bell Canada Act

[English]

## BELL CANADA ACT

### MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of Bill C-13, an Act respecting the reorganization of Bell Canada, as reported (with an amendment) from a legislative committee; and Motions No. 1 (Mrs. Finestone, p. 7100) and No. 2 (Mrs. McDonald, p. 7100).

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** Question.

Motion No. 1 (Mrs. Finestone) negated.

Motion No. 2 (Ms. McDonald) negated.

**Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Communications)** moved that the Bill be concurred in.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Lewis:** Madam Speaker, there have been discussions among the Parties and I think you would find that there is unanimous consent to proceed with third reading at this time, and at this time Hon. Members who wish to make comments on third reading stage may do so.

**Ms. McDonald:** Madam Speaker, there certainly is agreement that we proceed, provided that there is an understanding that the time be shared equitably among all three Parties between now and 5 p.m.

**Mr. Lewis:** Madam Speaker, I think we could give that undertaking on behalf of the Government. We would hope to clear third reading stage by five o'clock and that would mean speeches of 10 minutes per Party. There has been an understanding among the Parties that we would be successful in achieving third reading today. I would hope that we could do that, and we are certainly agreeable with the NDP to split the time equally.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Madam Speaker, although I appreciate the communication here, I think it could be improved if we could take just a few minutes behind the curtains to talk about the proposal which, as I understand, is to pass this Bill before 5 p.m. by sharing the time between 4.30 and 5 p.m. equally among all Parties. My understanding is that the Hon. Member for Mount Royal (Mrs. Finestone) has some hesitation and I would like to discuss it with her if I could.

**Mr. Lewis:** Madam Speaker, I think we would be in agreement with that. The motion could be moved for third reading and the debate could commence. The Minister could