

Telecommunications

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my party may I extend congratulations to the minister on her new position.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: I am glad to see her moving up in the world, and I think the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) could have done worse than make her minister of finance.

I notice that the bill will change the name of COTC to Teleglobe Canada. That is interesting. Applying this thinking to other departments, I concede the possibility of changing the name of the Department of Finance to "Inflation Canada." I will say no more, Mr. Speaker. We congratulate the hon. lady and wish her well. We have noted her presence in the House and her wit and disposition in dealing with all matters coming before her. We wish her well with the duties which lie ahead.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I join my hon. friend from Peace River in extending congratulations on behalf of my party to the hon. lady who has just been appointed Minister of Communications. I am sure that this is the first time in the 107 years of the history of this parliament that a lady minister has moved a motion in the House within hours after being appointed to her portfolio.

● (1600)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I have not had time to do all the research that might be necessary to make that assertion, but I am sure it is correct. We congratulate her on this appointment, and we shall back up our congratulations by passing this bill without further debate.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. C.-A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my party and myself, I would like to congratulate the new Minister of Communications (Mrs. Sauvé). We are very happy to see her in her new department. We were proud of having her as Minister of Environment because we had always felt no one can match a lady to clean up the nation. But I believe she will be even more at home in her new office and I am sure that, with such an able captain, communications will thrive. We are sure the whole country will benefit from her appointment. I once more extend my congratulations to the new minister.

[*English*]

Hon. Jeanne Sauvé (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank hon. members for being so expeditious in passing this bill. I appreciate that they are doing this to facilitate my task as, indeed, I was only sworn in a couple of hours ago. I thank them for passing this bill so expeditiously.

I thank the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) for his very kind words and good wishes. As I already have had occasion to tell him, we all have our favourites on the other side.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[Mrs. Sauvé.]

Mrs. Sauvé: That is true.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Explain.

Mrs. Sauvé: I have something for you too.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mrs. Sauvé: As for the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), we have a very old acquaintanceship. We have had many discussions. The only problem we have is that we feel we should be on the same side of the House.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Hear, hear! Come on over.

Mrs. Sauvé: I also want to thank the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier).

[*Translation*]

I would like to thank the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier) for his good wishes and his kind words. Hon. members of his party have always shown so much courtesy to me that I am pleased but not surprised by their graciousness. Thank you very much, and now I hope we shall be able to get the bill through.

[*English*]

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner (London East)): Item 2, in the name of the hon. member for Hamilton West (Mr. Alexander). Shall the item stand?

Some hon. Members: Stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner (London East)): Item 15, in the name of the hon. member for Hamilton-Wentworth (Mr. O'Sullivan). Shall the item stand?

Some hon. Members: Stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner (London East)): Item 19, on the name of the hon. member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson). Shall the item stand?

Some hon. Members: Stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner (London East)): Item 20, in the name of the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker). Shall the item stand?

Some hon. Members: Stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner (London East)): Item 34, in the name of the hon. member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow). Shall the item stand?

Some hon. Members: Stand.