

advantages of having the hard currency to buy the things that they are not able to make in their own country. They are getting it both ways at this time.

• (1710)

I think if the government was serious about really creating a healthy, multilateral global trading context, it would get serious about the debt crisis and serious about the recommendations of the subcommittee of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and International Trade, which made a number of very good recommendations in this regard to which the government has not responded.

**Mr. Nicholson:** I see you haven't read the bill either.

**Mr. Blaikie:** I have looked through the bill. There is not much to talk about. It is a Geneva convention with respect to the protection of buyers and sellers. What is really at issue here politically is whether we should be debating this at all or whether we should be debating the legislation that would facilitate the payment of those child tax credits.

**Mr. Cooper:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to step into the discussion here for a moment by way of a point of order to indicate to the House that there have been discussions among the parties and the party leadership last week that today we would deal with Bills C-81, C-82 and C-73, which was the intention that I was operating on.

I want to indicate to the House, Mr. Speaker, that we are quite happy if the members want to proceed with Bills C-81, C-82 and C-73. We are happy to bring in Bill C-86, the child tax credits, immediately after that. We are prepared to co-operate in every way that we can to push it through as expeditiously and as favourably as we can.

**Mr. Riis:** Mr. Speaker, this is interesting. The Parliamentary Secretary to the government House leader is correct. He says there was an intention of proceeding with Bills C-81, C-82 and C-73 for today. That was the government's intention and we said, that is fine, but we just realized over the weekend that 60,000-plus low-income families were promised a child tax credit by mid-November.

### *Government Orders*

I have looked ahead on what the government has informed us in terms of the business of the next few days and it is not on that list. I want to ask my friend the Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader, if he is saying that an act to implement the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, an act regarding port wardens, and an act dissolving and privatizing Crown corporations are more important than the child tax credit legislation? I want to say that I do not think it is more important.

I want to say to the parliamentary secretary, to facilitate the passage of Bills C-81, C-82 and C-73, I will on behalf of my party say yes, we will facilitate the passage of that legislation if the government now, this moment this afternoon—we have plenty of time left—introduces Bill C-86 so we can say to the low income families of this country yes, we are concerned that in the pre-Christmas period when people are putting aside money for snow outfits and snow clothing for the children, making pre-Christmas plans, that we might—

[*Translation*]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** I hesitate to recognize the parliamentary secretary because the House is not the place for House leaders to negotiate. I would be inclined to urge the House leaders to meet outside the House so we might go on with the debate. However the Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader may have something more to say.

[*English*]

**Mr. Cooper:** Mr. Speaker, indeed Bill C-86 is very important. I am sure all of us in this House agree. What is important is I gave my word, as Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader, to the other members in this House that we would proceed with Bills C-81, C-82 and C-73 today.

Mr. Speaker, I am prepared at this moment to ask you if there is unanimous consent of the House to proceed with Bill C-81, Bill C-82, and Bill C-73 and immediately thereafter to deal with Bill C-86 in all stages. I can assure you that we on this side are prepared to give that unanimous consent at this moment.