

Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act

39, the one which stands as a bona fide notice of motion on the Order Paper, seeks to alter the procedure relating to the consideration and disposal of private members' business. This point was made by the hon. member for Peace River in the course of his presentation. I wish to say that I have every sympathy with the objective sought to be achieved by the hon. member as expressed in the terms of his notice of motion No. 39 and by the motion now being discussed.

There is much to be said for a re-examination of our procedure in the whole field of private members' legislation and it may well be that this is a suitable topic for consideration in due course by our Committee on Procedure and Organization.

As hon. members may know, there are meetings of house leaders in the Speaker's chambers during which procedural matters are discussed informally from time to time at which the Speaker takes the initiative on occasion to suggest that the committee might consider special problems. I propose to take the initiative to recommend to the committee that it take up at the first opportunity, at its very first meeting, the point raised today by the hon. member for Peace River. However, for the moment, and for the reasons stated I must rule that the hon. member's motion now being discussed will have to be removed from the notice section of the order paper.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order related to the remarks made by the President of the Privy Council. I should like to draw Your Honour's attention to Standing Order No. 5 and ask whether permission has been given by the House for the absence of the right hon. member for Mount Royal and also of the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands.

Mr. Speaker: The point of order raised by the hon. member is a precise illustration of the statement which was made by the President of the Privy Council, namely, that some of our rules are not observed to the extent that they ought to be. Perhaps the committee would like to consider not only 68(1) but all the Standing Orders which need to be looked into further. I do not think it would be possible at this time to try to enforce the Standing Order to which the hon. member for Timiskaming has referred.

Mr. Peters: Since this Standing Order is unenforceable, and since Your Honour has a responsibility for enforcing it, could I ask you to make arrangements for the committee to

[**Mr. Speaker.**]

review these unenforceable Standing Orders, with, of course, the support of the committee?

Mr. Speaker: That is precisely what I was saying a few moments ago. I can make suggestions to the committee though it is, of course, a committee of the House, not a committee of the Chair; a committee instructed by the House can study whatever subjects it decides in its own wisdom to consider. But I would be pleased to bring to the attention of the committee, including the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, the suggestion now made by the hon. member for Timiskaming.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Why me? I am here.

[*Translation*]

FINANCE TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

CONCURRENCE IN FIRST REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Gaston Clermont (Gatineau) moved that the first report of the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, which was introduced before the house on Friday, November 7, 1969, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

• (2:40 p.m.)

[*English*]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION

TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Jim McNulty (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, in accordance with section 95 (2) of the Unemployment Insurance Act I should like to table copies, in English and in French, of the annual report of the Unemployment Insurance Commission for the fiscal year ended March, 1969.

[*Translation*]

CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION ACT

MEASURE RELATING TO QUALIFICATIONS OF DIRECTOR

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-147, an Act to amend the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, the bill tends only to amend a provision of the present