

accommodate those Hon. Members who are trying to be recognized. The Chair is doing its level best to accommodate the maximum number of Members.

The Chair serves notice that there have been preambles that are too long and that citing from a document on a supplementary question is contrary to the rules. These procedures are making it very difficult for the Chair to be fair to other Hon. Members. Replies are sometimes long also. Long questions bring long replies. I am simply calling to the attention of Hon. Members that a little more discipline would make it much easier for the Chair to observe the Standing Order, which was very properly brought to the attention of the Chair by the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Pinard).

● (1510)

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I was going to say that it does not lie within the competence of the Government House Leader to be lecturing the Chair on the manner in—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) has the floor. The Chair is listening attentively to what he is saying and will remember every word he says.

Mr. Nielsen: I will sleep better at night, Mr. Speaker, knowing that you are paying that degree of attention to my words. I was about to say, on the manner in which the Chair conducts itself, that there are times when, through no fault of any one of us, we exceed the time allowed for the Question Period. In my view, the Chair acted very properly. I endorse the adjuration of the Chair that we should shorten the questions. That would make for a more lively Question Period if we did that. However, I also say that there is a certain deliberateness about the length of the answers which come in reply to even some of the shortest possible questions. I am sure, however, the Chair will handle that with the impartiality which we all expect and with which we know he functions in the chair.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I just want to indicate respectfully to you that referring the Chair to a specific Standing Order, or to any other reference, in pleading a case is perfectly acceptable in the House. It is not lecturing the Chair to invoke a certain Standing Order. It is the same case in the courts. My hon. colleague has been a lawyer for a long time. He should know better. I am sure that my hon. colleague, the Hon. Member for Saskatoon West, every time he goes into Small Claims Court in Saskatchewan does exactly the same thing—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: The Chair is aware of the procedures of the House. The Chair, frankly, was hoping in the period ahead that, by informal discussions with Hon. Members and by working together, we can all learn to respect each other and operate with mutual confidence.

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the suggestion by the President of the Privy Council that I practise in the Small Claims Court. Let me say that to him that is an appeal court.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

PETITION

MR. FRETZ—PROPOSED CHANGES TO ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES OF RIDING OF ERIE

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition presented by at least 50 constituents from my riding, primarily from Port Colborne and Wainfleet. The petition of the undersigned residents in Canada, who now avail themselves of their ancient and undoubted right thus to present a grievance common to your petitioners in the certain assurance that your honourable House will therefore provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that the Electoral Boundaries Commission failed to give adequate attention to geographical and historical factors when planning the redistribution within Erie riding, thus resulting in a most inconvenient division of the town of Fort Erie and rendering unrecognizable a riding newly created in 1979, in which the federal representative has nurtured a sense of community and cohesiveness since that time. Therefore the petitioners ask that decision to alter the riding of Erie be reconsidered.

Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray that your Honourable House will accept the aforementioned recommendation.

* * *

[*Translation*]

CURRENCY AND EXCHANGE ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-11, intituled "An Act to amend the Currency and Exchange Act".

Motion agreed to, Bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.