

Constitution Amendment, 1987

(2) No later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 2, 1987, other Members may give notice of amendments substantively different from those of which notice has been given pursuant to Section (1) of this Order, and when the said Government Order is taken up on the next sitting day, the Speaker may declare these motions to have been duly moved and seconded;

(3) No amendment shall be permitted other than as provided for by Sections (1) and (2) of this Order and any amendment or sub-amendment proposed before the adoption of this Order shall be deemed to have been withdrawn;

(4) During the debate on the said Government Order, and any amendments thereto, no Member may speak more than once;

(5) At the conclusion of debate on the said Government Order, the Speaker shall put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment, all of the questions necessary to dispose of all of the proposed amendments and of the main motion, as amended or not amended, as the case may be, in the following order:

(i) the motion proposed by the Leader of the Opposition or a member acting on his behalf pursuant to Section (1) of this Order;

(ii) the motion proposed by the Leader of the New Democratic Party or a Member acting on his behalf pursuant to Section (1) of this Order;

(iii) Any motion proposed pursuant to Section (2) of this Order;

(iv) the main motion;

(6) For the purposes of this Order, a Whip may request a deferred vote on all questions set out in Section (5) of this Order for 48 hours.

(7) During consideration of this Government Order, the provisions of Standing Order 9(4) shall not apply.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Does the Hon. Minister of State have unanimous consent of the House to move the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

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

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Lewis: Madam Speaker, I should have prefaced my remarks by pointing out to the House that the House Leaders from the Official Opposition and the New Democratic Party have been very co-operative with the Government in an effort to organize and manage the debate so that it meets the wishes of the Parties and also the individuals who may wish to place amendments.

I wish to thank them for their co-operation.

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Madam Speaker, on behalf of the New Democratic Party, I too wish to offer an observation that on this very historic occasion when the House is dealing with the Constitution of Canada that it was a pleasure to work with the House Leader of Her Majesty's Official Opposition and the Government House Leader to arrange a package that would permit every Member to have an opportunity to speak to the motion before the House regarding the Accord, or the respective amendments put forward by the various Parties or individuals, and allow for a free and open debate on this very important matter.

I concur with the Minister of State (Mr. Lewis) that this has been a very productive exercise. It indicates that when the will is there, all three political Parties in Canada can work together for the good of the country.

• (1140)

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Madam Speaker, I simply want to say that the order which has just been adopted represents the results of consultations. It will permit the consideration of amendments deemed important to the opposition Parties, as well as possibly to individuals.

In addition, it will ensure that those who wish to speak in this debate will have the opportunity to do so.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Following the comments of Hon. Members and the motion which has just been carried, I think the Chair may also express a few comments.

In the special order which the House has just adopted it is provided that certain amendments included in the report of the Special Joint Committee on the 1987 Constitutional Accord shall be proposed to the House notwithstanding that they may be out of order pursuant to our rules and practices.

While this is a most unusual procedure, it is not for the Chair to interfere with the course which the House has unanimously chosen to follow. However, I believe it is my duty to state for the record that the amendments which may be proposed during the debate on this government order should not be cited or referred to as precedents in future proceedings in this Chamber.

The House will now proceed with the question and answer period following the speech of the Hon. Minister.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

THE CONSTITUTION ACT, 1867

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT, 1987

The House resumed debate on the motion of Mr. Hnatyshyn:

WHEREAS the *Constitution Act, 1982* came into force on April 17, 1982, following an agreement between Canada and all the provinces except Quebec;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Quebec has established a set of five proposals for constitutional change and has stated that amendments to give effect to those proposals would enable Quebec to resume a full role in the constitutional councils of Canada;

AND WHEREAS the amendment proposed in the schedule hereto sets out the basis on which Quebec's five constitutional proposals may be met;

AND WHEREAS the amendment proposed in the schedule hereto also recognizes the principle of the equality of all the provinces, provides new arrangements to foster greater harmony and cooperation between the Government of Canada and the governments of the provinces and requires that conferences be convened to consider important constitutional, economic and other issues;