

Labour Education

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order in regard to the bill which is included in the report that has just been tabled. As Your Honour knows, the way the rules are set up it would be technically possible for the government to ask the House to proceed on Monday with the report stage of Bill C-24. On previous occasions when this has happened on a Friday, Your Honour has taken the view that it is the clear intention of the rules that hon. members shall have one clear day in which to get copies of the reprinted bill and to draft and file their report stage amendments. I express the hope that that practice, which has been followed in the past when a bill has been tabled on Friday, will be followed in this case and that members will have until six o'clock on Monday to file their report stage amendments to Bill C-24, which has to do with immigration.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I assume there is no comment to the contrary, or other contributions to be made to the point of order. It is a valid one and one we have taken into consideration on previous occasions. Technically, the operation of Standing Order 75 dealing with report stage amendments would be such that the lapse of 48 hours would permit taking into consideration the report stage of the bill. Within that period, 24 hours would be set aside as a deadline for the filing of report stage amendments. Report stage amendments are a very important aspect of our proceedings with respect to any bill. When a bill is reported to the House on a Friday, as has been done this morning, the operation of that rule would permit, on the face of the language, taking into consideration the report stage of the bill beginning at three o'clock Monday afternoon, or as an order of the day on Monday.

If that were permitted, it would compress the time for the filing of report stage amendments, particularly on a bill of this scope and magnitude, effectively to five o'clock this afternoon or when the administration is able to receive such filings. It seems to me that would clearly frustrate the spirit of the rule, if not the letter of the rule.

The spirit of the rule is to give opportunities to hon. members to reason out their report stage amendments, which are very important aspects of the deliberation of a bill. Therefore, I have no hesitation in keeping with past practices and orders which I have made on previous occasions. I indicate that this bill ought not to be taken into consideration until Tuesday as an order of the day, which will give hon. members an opportunity until six o'clock on Monday to prepare and file report stage amendments.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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LABOUR

TABLING OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADIAN LABOUR
CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT RESPECTING LABOUR
EDUCATION

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table, in both official languages, the report on the

[Mr. Speaker.]

agreement between the Canadian Labour Congress and the government with respect to labour education, which I was requested to do some time ago.

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ANTI-INFLATION BOARD

TABLING OF REFERENCES TO ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Bob Kaplan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2), and on behalf of the Minister of Finance, I should like to table, in both official languages, two references from the Anti-Inflation Board to the administrator, pursuant to subsection 17(2) of the Anti-Inflation Act, one dealing with Alberta Government Telephones, and the other dealing with St. Boniface school division No. 4, on executive employees.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk)

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 749, 754, 812, 1,169, 1,529, 1,898, 2,313, 2,337, 2,363, 2,541 and 2,751.

[Text]

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE—EXPENDITURE FOR FURNITURE
AND FIXTURES

Question No. 749—**Mr. Stevens:**

1. What was the total expenditure for (a) furniture and fixtures (b) decorative plants and wall accessories for the Department of Finance offices in Place Bell Canada?
2. (a) For which items were the contracts awarded for decorating (b) to whom were the contracts awarded (c) what was the amount?
3. What is the average expenditure per employee for furniture and fixtures?

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Departments of Finance and Public Works as follows: 1. (a) \$1,669,668. This amount is the aggregate amount purchased between FY 1971-72 and FY 1976-77. It includes: Furniture, \$638,843; Fixtures including wall partitions, lighting fixtures, door frames, doors, drapes and blinds \$832,400; Wall units and filing equipment, \$198,425; Total expenditures for a six year period, \$1,669,668. (b) Decorative plants, including maintenance and replacements, \$58,000.; Wall accessories, \$2,700.

2. (a) Contracts were awarded for all items of decorating. (b) (i) Decorative Plants: Fines Flowers Ltd. Eric Jensen Greenhouses Limited (ii) Wall accessories: Olympia & York Developments Limited. (c) (i) \$45,000; \$13,000. (ii) \$2,700.

3. Furniture, \$778.13; Fixtures, \$1,013.88; Wall units and filing equipment \$241.69; Total, \$2,033.70. The information covers expenditures since occupancy of Place Bell Canada in