

Inquiries of the Ministry

the motion standing in my name under paragraph 4 of standing order 15 could be discussed, in view of the fact that normally at this time of the session there would be no opportunity for such discussion.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman asks me to overrule a decision of the house.

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, I call to your attention the fact that there was no such decision of the house that deals with this matter. The motion is under another standing order, and my question is a perfectly proper one.

Mr. Diefenbaker: My answer still stands.

Mr. Pearson: No discussion.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Hon. gentlemen appealed against the ruling of the Speaker, and the decision of the house is that this motion shall follow the order of business that was determined as a result of the ruling.

[*Later.*]

Mr. Diefenbaker: I should like to make further reference to the question asked by the Leader of the Opposition. May I say this; that I always try to be most helpful—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Diefenbaker:—and I am now going to give him the opportunity to discuss this case if he desires to follow it through.

While it had been arranged—and it is always subject to change—that the supply motion should not come up on Monday, you have pointed out, Mr. Speaker, that this matter could be reviewed in detail on a supply motion. I now give the Leader of the Opposition the offer that if he desires we will change the order of business on Monday in order to enable him and those associated with him to do what has been suggested might be possible, namely to bring this question up on a motion for supply.

Mr. Pearson: Once the Prime Minister refused to suspend the business of the house to discuss this question, I was about to ask the leader of the house if he would arrange the order of business so as to take a supply motion on Monday. I gather that the Prime Minister is agreeable to that course, and I welcome the opportunity which has been given to us.

EXPORT CREDITS INSURANCE ACT

AMENDMENT TO DELETE REFERENCE TO GOVERNOR OF BANK OF CANADA, TO EXTEND APPLICATION OF ACT, ETC.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Trade and Commerce) moved the first reading of

66968-9—313½

Bill No. S-22 (from the Senate) to amend the Export Credits Insurance Act.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

IMMIGRATION

H. C. BANKS—REQUEST FOR DEPORTATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. In view of the fact the seafarers' international union has been suspended from membership in the Canadian Labour Congress; and in view of the fact that the petition for Canadian citizenship of Harold Chamberlain Banks, the union's vice president, was rejected by the president of a citizenship court because the court considered him an undesirable character; and in view of Canadian public opinion and in the interests of the Canadian labour movement and the welfare of the Canadian people generally, would the government now consider the time appropriate to deport this undesirable alien?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Ellen L. Fairclough (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, Mr. Hal Banks has Canadian domicile. There are no provisions or regulations under the present act by which deportation could be ordered.

Mr. Herridge: I should like to ask a supplementary question. In view of the obvious sentiment of the members expressed on all sides of this house at the conclusion of my question, does the minister not think this parliament expects the government of Canada to speak up for Canada on this question?

Mrs. Fairclough: Mr. Speaker, as the minister of this department I think it is my duty to observe the law.

[*Later.*]

Mr. W. C. Henderson (Cariboo): I heartily concur, regarding this Banks case, with the hon. member for Kootenay East. It is time for the government to deport this man.

Mr. Speaker: Order. Unless the hon. member is about to move a motion of privilege, I would remind him that he cannot make a speech at this time. If he wishes to ask a supplementary question he will be in order.

Mr. Henderson: Then I should like the minister of immigration to tell us why this man cannot be deported. He is just a gangster.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration is not in the habit of repeating herself.