

*Business of the House***BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Nielsen: Madam Speaker, may I ask the Government House Leader the usual Thursday question with respect to the business of the House for next week, whether there have been any changes since our last discussion?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, until further notice, the business of the House remains unchanged as far as today, tomorrow, Monday and Tuesday are concerned. Yesterday, I asked the House to wait until today for further details about our business for next Wednesday and Thursday. So, today, we will start the debate on second reading of Bill C-128, a measure to provide the government with supplementary borrowing authority. Tomorrow will be the second day of this debate, which should end next Tuesday by 9:45 p.m. Both Monday and Friday next week will be opposition days. As far as Wednesday and Thursday are concerned, there are bills arising from the last budget which we should like to have debated in the House as soon as possible. These bills will be introduced in a few moments by the ministers concerned. The bills we wish to consider on Wednesday and Thursday are the following, in that order—provided, of course, that more than one is passed. The first one will be the bill in the name of the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan), entitled “An Act respecting rebates of interest on farm loans made under the Farm Credit Act”. The second bill to be considered concerns small business, and is entitled “Small Business Investment Grants Act”, and the third bill still arising from the June budget that will be presented to Parliament for consideration is in the name of the Minister of Public Works (Mr. LeBlanc) and is entitled “An Act to amend the National Housing Act (No. 2)”.

Thus, the order of business for next week is very straightforward and clear-cut, except for Wednesday and Thursday when we will be considering, in order, a number of bills arising from the last budget. These are the bills I have just mentioned and they will be introduced in a few moments.

Now, I shall, if I may, add a few remarks about the statement made yesterday by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde). We expected the minister's statement to take up about one hour, in fact it was a bit longer than that, so that, at the request of the opposition parties, Madam Speaker, we have agreed that when we get to Statements by Ministers, the question and answer period following the statement will continue today for an additional period of not more than twenty minutes, and I may add, as I said yesterday, that we would not want this to be considered a precedent.

[*English*]

Mr. Nielsen: Madam Speaker, as the Government House Leader has indicated, we have had some discussion on this matter. It relates to a reservation I made last night immediately prior to the adjournment, namely that there was a point of

order that might arise today with respect to the item upon which the House should have commenced proceedings today.

There is a substantive argument that could be made procedurally that we should have started today's proceedings where we left off yesterday, namely under the item on Routine Proceedings entitled “Statements by Ministers”. There is an argument that can be made under Standing Order 7 and Standing Order 15 and Bourinot, May and Beauchesne all support that. However, since the Government has agreed to extend the examination of the Minister of Finance for a further 20 minutes, it is not my intention to advance that submission today.

I rise now simply to make certain that the record will show that our acquiescence to this proceeding today, that is, embarking on the question period rather than continuing the item we left off yesterday, is not to be taken in any way, shape or form as any precedent for the future should we find ourselves in a similar position.

Mr. Deans: Madam Speaker, I also was involved in this, but I hope it is a precedent in fact in that it shows the goodwill that can be obtained when we try to work together.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENCE

PRESENTATION OF TWELFTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis): Madam Speaker, as chairman of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the Twelfth Report of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, which concerns Canada's relations with Latin America and the Caribbean, and I wish to request an extension until November 30, a memorable date, since it is Winston Churchill's birthday and mine as well.

[*Editor's Note: For above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

[*English*]

PRIVILEGE

MR. FRIESEN—PRODUCTION OF PAPERS ALLEGED INCOMPLETE

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock-North Delta): Madam Speaker, it was my understanding that this question of privilege would arise after “Statements by Ministers”, but I am prepared to proceed now. I beg the indulgence of the House on this matter.