Business of the House

Tuesday will be a day on which we continue the Meech Lake debate, with the Prime Minister and the Leaders of the two opposition Parties taking part in the debate on that day.

[Translation]

POINT OF ORDER

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF DOCUMENT

Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I wish to raise a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Shefford (Mr. Lapierre) on a point of order.

Mr. Lapierre: Mr. Speaker, during Question Period, the Minister of State for Small Businesses and Tourism and Minister of State for Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Valcourt) quoted from a document containing the DRIE expenses figures for Quebec, and I wished he had the kindness and courtesy to table it in the House for the information of all Hon. Members.

Hon. Bernard Valcourt (Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism) and Minister of State (Indian Affairs and Northern Development)): Mr. Speaker, you may have noticed or *Hansard* will indicate, if you look at the record, that I have not once referred to that document. I did mention having in my possession a document containing such expenses without, however, referring to it, and I believe that Standing Orders require that a document be laid upon the Table when referred to or when a quotation is made from it, which was not the case.

Mr. Jacques Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Saint-Jacques (Mr. Guilbault), on a point of order.

Mr. Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): Mr. Speaker, speaking on behalf of my party, I would like to reserve the right to look at the video tape, to confirm the Minister's reply. If he did exactly what he said he did, we agree . . .

An Hon. Member: Does he have anything to hide?

Mr. Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): ... but it seemed to us he quoted from a document.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The Minister has said that he was not quoting from a document, but if there is further difficulty with this, I will hear the Hon. Member for Saint-Jacques at another point in time. The Hon. Member may well want to look at *Hansard* and also at the video tape. If there is any further difficulty, I, of course, will hear Hon. Members.

PRIVILEGE

NOTICE OF QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I rise to express to you that I reserve the right to raise a question of privilege after I have examined the record which contains the statement of the Hon. Member for York Scarborough (Mr. McCrossan). That statement was made this afternoon. I will examine the record and then decide whether in fact I would like to raise a question of privilege at a later date.

Mr. Speaker: I, of course, would ask the Hon. Member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez), and I am sure he would be very pleased to oblige me in my request, that he give me notice in writing.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, since Thursday is the day we ask the Deputy House Leader about government business, perhaps I will put a comment to the Parliamentary Secretary. Considering that we have not had the usual round of meetings for House Leaders this week because of the press conference called by the Deputy House Leader, we would like to indicate that, as far as the NDP is concerned, there are a number of Bills we would like to move on expeditiously. As he knows, on a number of occasions we have indicated precisely what those Bills are. If the Government were to bring them forward, we would move on them with haste and in the most expeditious fashion.

However, he will also be well aware that the trade deal the Government wants to debate into the summer, to legislate by exhaustion, is what we oppose. For that reason, we oppose the idea of trying to jam that legislation through the House. I want to make that point clear to my friend, the Parliamentary Secretary.

Mr. Hawkes: Mr. Speaker, the Government is very pleased to hear the word "expeditious". The Government would like to move expeditiously on some legislation. If we could package it all up, including getting the trade Bill amply debated in the House, lots of hours on it, then move it forward to committee, there might indeed be a basis for a very productive meeting. But I do not think the majority of Members of the House can be held hostage to a smaller unit of the House who have their priority. I think it is reasonable to expect that perhaps all three Parties have priorities. If we could agree on those priorities, indeed the House would be well served, as would Members of the House.

• (1510)

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I want to remind the Parliamentary Secretary that we are not in a one-Party state. He may wish we were, but we are not. The House