

*Business of the House*

we might be able to work out some arrangement at some time in the not too distant future.

The third point I want to make is that the Government House Leader knows—and perhaps he will acknowledge it—that there is no end to the co-operation. In fact, we are all working very hard to try to achieve, on behalf of the Government, of the people of Canada and of course on behalf of Parliament, the utmost, maximum amount of co-operation on legislation which we all understand to be of vital importance.

**Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior):** Mr. Speaker, could the Government House Leader advise us how soon Bill C-31, the amendments to the Indian Act, will be back at report stage? I remind the Hon. Minister that great pressure was put on the committee to get it back to the House. How soon will it be debated? There is great concern on the part of many people about that Bill and its inadequacies.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Mr. Speaker, I will respond to the questions that have been put. I apologize to the Deputy House Leader of the Official Opposition. I misunderstood his question. I thought he was asking for the date of the Budget. Of course it is next Thursday. As far as the budget debate is concerned, at the present time I anticipate that we will carry right into the budget debate, that is to say, the Budget would be brought down on Thursday and then Friday would be the first day of the budget debate.

I want to sit down at the appropriate time and talk with Opposition House Leaders with respect to the scheduling of the budget debate. It seems to me that there may be an opportunity for some understanding about the dates being at the convenience of all Hon. Members so that we will know when the votes are and how we can arrange our speakers, particularly as that relates to the Leaders of the Parties.

In connection with the Bill relating to the amendments to Section 12(1)(b) of the Indian Act and other amendments, it is our intention to bring this matter forward at an early date.

● (1520)

I have listed some items on which I thought we might make progress because of my discussions with the House Leader of his Party and the House Leader of the New Democratic Party. I know that this is a matter of importance and of some great interest. It is a question of looking at the most efficient use of the limited time that we have on the floor of the House of Commons to make sure there is an appropriate debate and an opportunity for points of view to be expressed. I share the Hon. Member's concern about this legislation. It is an important item. I will do my level best to ensure that we have an opportunity of dealing with it at an early date.

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier):** Mr. Speaker, I have a short question for the Government House Leader. There is immense interest in the distribution Bill. Can the Government give some indication as to when we can expect some motion or movement on distribution? Is the Government intending to proceed soon on that?

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Mr. Speaker, the Bill which the Hon. Member refers to I believe deals with redistribution. There has not yet been an announcement with respect to specific initiatives that have been taken, although in all candour I have to say that I have spoken to the House Leaders about some review of the existing situation. I intend to move on it, I hope, at an early date. Possibly within the next week I will have specific proposals to put forward to the Opposition House Leaders concerning this matter. On the basis of my discussions thus far, there may well be a disposition to have parliamentarians deeply involved in this very interesting, if I may be permitted to say so, legislation in which we all seem to have an interest.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is one Bill in which even the Speaker has an interest, or a special interest I should say.

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

### MANAGEMENT AND MEMBERS' SERVICES

#### PRESENTATION OF SECOND REPORT

**Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis):** Mr. Speaker, I am sure you will be delighted to hear that today I have the honour of tabling the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Management and Members' Services, pursuant to its order of reference of Tuesday, February 26, 1985.

Yesterday, in your presence, our committee examined Vote 5 under the item "Parliament" in the Estimates for the financial year ending March 31, 1986, and we have the honour of tabling it today—

[*English*]

Of course in both languages. I am sure you will be very relieved, Mr. Speaker, to know that your estimates were accepted yesterday.

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### PETITIONS

#### NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap):** Mr. Speaker, I have here a number of petitions from residents of Vancouver, British Columbia, who call upon the Government to take action to save the National Postal Museum. They suggest it is incumbent upon this Parliament to do whatever it can to preserve this valuable cultural institution which has served Canada so well.

**Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition signed by a number of