

Motions

amendment it has in mind, but I am willing to listen to it and perhaps also to accept it.

[English]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I would be perfectly prepared, as my colleague knows, to make that amendment, but not without completing consultations with the House Leader of the NDP.

It is my signal from him that there is no point in proceeding any further, so I suggest that the amendment be put, unless he wishes to make a comment at this time.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, to be very clear about it, there have been extensive discussions between the Parties. We have come to an agreement, and the agreement is reflected on the Order Paper.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)) moved:

That when the House adjourns on Friday, December 18, 1987, it shall stand adjourned until eleven o'clock a.m., Monday, January 18, 1988:

Provided that;

At any time before that date, should any bill or bills be awaiting the giving of Royal Assent, the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker shall convene a meeting of the House at a time to be fixed by the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker by notifying the Chief Whip of each party, for the sole purpose of the giving of Royal Assent to any bill or bills;

Upon the completion of the giving of Royal Assent, the Speaker or Deputy Speaker shall adjourn the House until the date specified in this order;

The provisions of Standing Order 5 shall apply during the period of adjournment; and

For the purposes of Standing Order 4, the first sitting day in 1988 shall be deemed to have been January 11, 1988.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The House will now proceed to Private Members' Hour.

• (1500)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS--BILLS

[English]

INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND GOODWILL DAY

MEASURE TO ENACT

Mr. Bill Vankoughnet (Hastings—Frontenac—Lennox and Addington) moved that Bill C-238, an Act respecting international peace and goodwill, be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present to this House for consideration and second reading debate an Act respecting International Peace and Goodwill Day. The purpose of this legislation is to change the name associated with December 26 from Boxing Day to International Peace and Goodwill Day in honour of Canada's commitment to world peace and goodwill among all nations and people.

This Bill is a direct result of my great concern about the world's present situation and what kind of future we are building for ourselves. The recent historic summit between Soviet Leader Gorbachev and President Reagan gives hope and optimism for moving away from the so-called policy of mutual assured destruction by which nations hold each other hostage to nuclear terror and destruction. This is only a small step forward, and it is imperative that we continue to remind the world that we have a long way to go on disarmament and relieving human suffering throughout the world. Hopefully the Government will support this proposal or at least refer the subject material to an appropriate legislative committee for further study.

There is nothing more important that we could discuss here or anywhere than the survival of the human race. I strongly believe that we are masters of our own fate. We, as Members of Parliament, representing peace loving Canadians have an opportunity to stress the importance of international peace and goodwill further by supporting this initiative. Never before in the history of the world has there been a more crucial time to demonstrate the need for peace and goodwill. We are living in a world constantly threatened by nuclear war. We are living in a world constantly threatened by conventional forces. We are collectively held hostage in fear as each new act of terrorism is committed. Acts of terrorism and the building of arms must be stopped.

Nuclear war became a very real threat to the world once the first nuclear bomb was dropped on Japan. No other country has experienced the horrible reality and aftermath of nuclear war. We have a duty to ourselves and the rest of the world to ensure that this does not happen again.

Until recently, instead of trying to stop the growth in numbers of nuclear weapons, we became obsessed with equalling our powers, not limiting them. We have lived in a world where the major global powers have been preoccupied with preparing for nuclear war, not preventing one. There are