

Business of the House

earliest opportunity as to whether or not we can use this type of procedure tomorrow, the day after and the day after that, even though it may be related to other Bills on the Order Paper or to matters before the House. I would like some direction from the Chair with regard to this ruling at the earliest opportunity. I want to say to you, Mr. Speaker, that I hoped to have asked Madam Speaker this very question but I could not get recognized. I hope the Chair will provide some guidance in this regard at the earliest opportunity because, in my view, we have reintroduced Standing Order 43 in this House.

● (1700)

Some Hon. Members: Right on.

Mr. Siddon: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. I think the Hon. Member for Edmonton East appears to misunderstand the process that is under way at the present time. Under House business, Members are merely asking that the normal notice period be waived and that the Government give consideration to certain proposed amendments to the legislation. This is quite different from the old practice of presenting motions under Standing Order 43 for the immediate consideration of the House which required unanimous consent in order that they be introduced and debated immediately.

I submit that the present process is quite different and consistent with the rulings of the Speaker earlier and is well justified by the case made by the House Leader for the Official Opposition and the critic for transport on this side.

Mr. Malone: Mr. Speaker, I want to support the Hon. Member for Richmond-South Delta. Many of the points he made were similar to the ones I was going to make. But let me just point out that what we are dealing with here is House business and is different from Standing Order 43 which, in fact, has the full range of questions. The other significant difference which should be brought to the Chair's attention is that Standing Order 43 traditionally was used any day the House sat. House business is a process that takes place only on Thursdays. The point which the Hon. Member for Edmonton East is attempting to make that this is a situation that can carry on in the same way as Standing Order 43 simply is not an understanding of what Members are doing here today.

I would submit that the Chair has no way in which it would be able to say, as the Hon. Member for Edmonton East is implying, that there is a connection between what we are doing today and Standing Order 43.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order, please. I am sure that when the Hon. Member for Edmonton East reads the full record of today's proceedings he will find ample explanation of what is presently going on. I advise him to check that record in print tomorrow.

Mr. Siddon: Mr. Speaker, as we are dealing with House business at this time, I would like to ask the Government House Leader whether, in the interests of facilitating debate

and improving Bill C-155, the Government would be prepared to waive the normal notice requirement and consent to allow the following motion to be put to the House at some future date. The proposed motion reads as follows:

That Bill C-155 be amended in Clause 59 by striking out lines 22 to 34 at page 34 and substituting the following therefor:

"(a) the appointment of cost increases between the Government of Canada and the shippers of grain in respect of the period beyond the 1985-1986 crop year, having due regard to the producers' ability to pay, having regard to trends in the incomes of producers, the relationship between transportation costs borne by the producers and the price of grain and the economic position of the producers relative to other major sectors of the national economy and to any other factors that the Minister considers relevant;"

I emphasize the words "having due regard to the producers' ability to pay". In any event, I ask that you seek the unanimous consent of the House that the motion as read be placed on the Order Paper for debate during the consideration of report stage of Bill C-155, an Act to facilitate the transportation, shipping and handling of western grain and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof.

May I ask that the question be put?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): The House has heard the proposal. Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): There is not unanimous consent.

Mr. Friesen: Mr. Speaker, I rise on House business. I would like to ask the Government House Leader whether, in the interest of facilitating debate and improving Bill C-155, the Government would be prepared to waive the normal notice requirement and to allow the following motion to be put to the House. I wish the Government House Leader were here to hear the amendment. It reads:

That Bill C-155 be amended in Clause 44 by striking out lines 43 to 44 at page 24 and by striking out lines 1 to 6 at page 25 substituting the following therefor:

"44. (2) In establishing rates, the distance from any point on any line of railway of the Canadian National Railway Company west of Edmonton to any port in British Columbia shall be deemed to be equal to the distance from that point to Vancouver on the line of railway of the Canadian National Railway Company."

In any event, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you seek the unanimous consent of the House that the motion, as read, be placed on the Order Paper for debate during the consideration of report stage of Bill C-155, an Act to facilitate the transportation, shipping and handling of western grain and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): The House has heard the proposal. Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.