

that the oil import subsidy scheme is going to cost this year, before the recent oil price increases, about \$4 billion. Four billion dollars that the taxpayers are going to pay, not the consumers of the product that are eating this up and causing this deficit; the taxpayers, many of whom do not drive cars and are paying \$4 billion this year.

● (1600)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Crosbie: I am only getting started—to warm up.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It being 4 p.m., the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, notices of motions, public bills and private bills.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Collenette: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I want to refer to a comment I made earlier this afternoon when your colleague was in the chair. I gave what I considered to be notice of the intention of the government on June 27 at four o'clock to seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading and all stages of bills to amend the names of constituencies. Your colleague in the chair at the time anticipated my comments somewhat and proceeded to make a House order to that effect or sought consent to make a House order to that effect. I have since been advised that is not the customary way to proceed on this routine matter, and so I ask hon. members to allow that order to be withdrawn—it was procedurally incorrect—and just take my notice that on June 27 at 4 p.m. I shall rise in my place and seek unanimous consent to dispense with all these bills, following which we will move into the business allotted for that day, June 27, motions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there unanimous consent to proceed as the parliamentary secretary has suggested?

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, that is agreeable. There was a discussion about the procedure and how we should handle it. The parliamentary secretary has made the proposal to the Chair in accordance with that discussion.

Mr. Knowles: Yes, Mr. Speaker, that was the way I understood it, namely, that it was an understanding and did not need to be made into a hard and fast House order.

Mr. Collenette: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a further point of order. Yesterday the parties held discussions on the question of the sitting of the House on Friday, July 4, which is a day on which the Liberal party will be meeting in convention in Winnipeg. As is the custom in the House, when the parties do have their conventions and these conventions are held on sitting days, the House does not sit. Therefore, in accordance with the agreement yesterday, and I would like to thank the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker) and the hon.

Capital Punishment

member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) for their co-operation in this matter, I have given notice to the Chair, and I move the following motion:

That any division required on July 3, 1980 after five o'clock p.m. shall be deferred until 9.45 o'clock p.m. on July 7, 1980; and that, when the House adjourns on July 3, 1980, it shall stand adjourned until July 7, 1980.

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, there were those discussions, and we understand the position of the party opposite. We were happy to see that the party is meeting in convention, and we hope that out of that convention will come some direction to what appears to us, at least at this point, to be a directionless government.

We think the party needs to get together, and therefore in the interests of the country, because the party opposite happens to form the government, at least for the time being, we are very pleased to give our consent.

Mr. Knowles: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Again I can confirm that there have been these discussions and that we have agreed to the terms of this motion. The hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker) expressed some pleasure that the Liberal party would be holding a national convention. It is interesting that it plans to hold it in my city of Winnipeg. It is good that lots of notice is being given about this because, if that many Liberals turn up in the city of Winnipeg, it is going to be a very odd experience for western Canada.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES OF MOTIONS

[English]

CRIMINAL CODE

NATIONAL REFERENDUM ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider the advisability of holding a national referendum on the issue of capital punishment and, following such referendum, amend the appropriate sections of the Criminal Code to conform with the majority views of the people of Canada.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be able to address fellow members of Parliament today on the need for a public referendum on a subject which has been very controversial over the years. I propose a national referendum on capital punishment. I earnestly request those who have entrenched positions on this matter to give up the security of those positions so that the people may decide on a matter on which the wishes of the majority and those of its elected representatives differ.