

whether his speech was his maiden contribution; it was a very good speech and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I intend to support the proposal.

On a collateral aspect, I would remind the House that it is my hope that private members' public bills, which for many years have not been as effective as they might be under present practices because the private members' hour is limited to one hour and because it has been the practice of all governments to talk them out, will be more effectively dealt with. I think we should look at the present practice. I will put before this House some suggestions which hon. members might consider and which the committee on procedure might also consider.

I would like to think that during the course of this parliament, or the next parliament, a minimum of 20 bills will be placed on the order paper through a system of draws or otherwise, and that these bills shall be heard between 9.30 and eleven o'clock during the early part of the session. The Standing Orders could be amended to provide that all questions would need to be put with regard to those 20 bills so that they would come to a vote in the House. That does not mean the government would need to accept them. If the government does not like them, the government has a safety valve, inasmuch as no private member can bring forward a bill for the spending of money. That can only be done by a minister of the Crown with the recommendation of His Excellency. I am not dealing with the case of money bills. Of course, if a private member's public bill contains a principle repugnant to the policies of the government, the government has every right to call its members to vote against it. I think the idea of new members bringing fresh ideas and new bills forward is excellent and valuable because those very bills ultimately become government policy. The period of gestation is fairly long, several years perhaps, but I think it would be accelerated if my proposal were adopted.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. As I understand it, the hon. member is talking about the way the procedure for private members' hour ought to be improved. To stay in order the hon. member once in a while should mention Bill C-9; then, I suppose, hon. members and the Chair will tolerate the hon. member's remarks. He must stay within the subject matter of the bill as much as possible.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I recognize the correctness of what Your Honour is saying, and I will mention Bill C-9 right away. I have mentioned it already. I will mention it at least once in every three or four sentences. I recognize that hon. members can call me to order. I bring this proposal forward now since this may be a short lived parliament, and this may be the only chance I shall have for mentioning this subject. Let us take Bill C-9 as an example.

If my views were to prevail, Bill C-9 might have had the luck of the draw and been before the House between 9.30 and eleven o'clock on some day fixed by the Standing Orders. Then, all questions would have to be put on the bill and possible amendments thereto so that a decision could be taken on second reading. The bill would then go to committee and come back for the report stage. The

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changes in the Standing Orders that I envisage would provide that on ten instances at the report stage, and at third reading, all questions would need to be put with respect to the bill. That would bring a bill like C-9 to a vote on the report stage and on third reading. I submit that on at least ten occasions during a session ten bills would stand the chance of passing this House and being considered in the other place. I am speaking of ten bills of a public nature sponsored by private members. Before dealing with the bill before us, may I say that I trust my suggestions will come to the attention of the appropriate members on the procedure committee. Such a procedure I think would be of great value.

One might say that Bill C-9 is a typical bill. I am sponsoring a bill as well, Bill C-52, which in some ways is very much like Bill C-9. There, Mr. Speaker, I have mentioned the bill again.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): The hon. member will be all right now for ten minutes.

Mr. Baldwin: I am saying this for the benefit of my hon. friends to my left, hoping they see the error of their ways. Nevertheless, I support the bill.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): You have to be right once in a while.

Mr. Baldwin: As I say, I support the principle of the bill. I cannot allude to Bill C-52. The bill provides for sanctions and for machinery by way of the court acting as intervenor to see if the type of information and document requested should be disclosed to the public. As the hon. member sponsoring this bill supported mine in the previous session, so do I support his now.

I support it for another reason. It is known that my leader during the course of the election campaign made a categorical commitment that if and then he should form the government he would provide for better and fuller disclosure. The government would disclose more fully documents and information. That was a firm commitment. It is one I support and which many members of the House will support notwithstanding their political leanings.

I support the bill for a third reason, and I think the debate we have witnessed recently will illustrate my reasons for that support. If a bill of this nature or in the nature of the one which I have not yet brought to the attention of the House, Bill C-52, were to be in effect, anybody wanting information about the condition of the unemployment insurance account, say, would only need to apply and obtain it. We would have known on September 1, 1972, the condition of that fund. I do not want to rub salt into wounds and exasperate the feelings of hon. members.

My final reason for supporting it is this. Two days from today we expect that a formal truce will be signed ending one of the most savage and vicious wars of recent decades. It is interesting to note that at the same time as the war is ending there is taking place in the United States the trial of a man known as Daniel Ellsberg. I think there are other defendants with him. These men are charged with stealing and disclosing documents from the Penta-