

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, we carefully considered the question of eligibility before adopting the election procedure and, indeed, had Mr. George Turner examine the question. We decided that we should not at this stage try to limit the choice of those to be elected or to put limits on campaign spending because of the difficulty in controlling this. Of course, it is completely open to the hon. member or anyone else to also take part in the campaign in order to make his point to the farmers of his district.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the government House leader what interesting and useful proposals he has in respect of legislation for the House this week and next, in view of the fact that this party pushed the government into obtaining a settlement of the strike so that it will not have to legislate next week?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: What will we be doing next week?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I am very happy that, as the government wished, it was not necessary for parliament to enact any legislation in view of the strike being settled by my colleague, the President of the Treasury Board. As for the business of the House, of course today is an allotted day. Tomorrow, it is the intention of the government to deal with a number of items that are at report stage or third reading, and I might list them.

The items include Bill C-13, the Northern Canada Power Commission bill; C-48, the amendments to the Railway Act; C-33, the export of cultural property bill, and there has also been discussion in respect of a couple of other items, particularly Bill C-25 dealing with environmental contaminants. This has been before the House on a number of occasions and I have had indications from members on the opposition side that they would like to see this approved because of the things that should be done under it immediately. Then, there is the report stage of Bill C-19 with an amendment that would have to be disposed of.

During what I would hope will be the remaining three days, depending on the progress we can make with our legislative package, I would put on the list the resumption of the debate on second reading of Bill C-8. We are hopeful that there will be a report on the housing legislation, and in view of the urgency of bringing that legislation into effect we would like to proceed to give third reading to that bill, provided by that time there has been a report. I understand that the Senate may also recommend some amendments to Bill C-29, and it may be possible that we can deal with that bill in order to bring that act before the Governor General for Royal Assent.

That is the account we would like to place before the House, and because it may be necessary to juggle the agenda a little bit in the remaining days I hope this will give some general guidance in respect of legislative items. It is also my intention on Monday to call for concurrence

Inflation

in the report of the Committee on Procedure and Organization.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, in respect of House business between now and Wednesday, would the government House leader say on what day the Minister of Veterans Affairs will be making his statement on veterans' housing, and if that statement involves legislation when will we be dealing with it?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I will consult with my colleague.

[Translation]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the President of the Privy Council regarding the business of the House.

The Minister of Environment has stated earlier that she was waiting for the House to pass Bill C-25 relating to substances that contaminate the environment. Our party agrees that it be given priority. However, it is the government, not the opposition, which decides the order of business. To elucidate this, would the President of the Privy Council agree to suggest an understanding so that Bill C-25 be given priority as early as tomorrow and so that Parliament settle this matter and pass the bill to protect workers in the Eastern Townships who are now suffering from asbestosis?

[English]

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his suggestion. I believe it is the general desire that this bill be disposed of, and I hope it can at least be put through second reading before we break for Easter.

Mr. Marshall: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that this summer the cadet services of Canada will again have to deny females qualification for pay and allowances, and Bill C-16 could correct this very easily, I wonder whether the minister would indicate when that bill is coming before the House again and can it be treated as an emergency, or at least given higher priority?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, this is International Women's Year and we do not lack zeal in promoting this particular bill, but we thought it was of such importance it should have plenty of time for discussion. It would be my intention after Easter to provide an ample opportunity for all members of the House to express their views.

● (1510)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—ALLEGED GOVERNMENT INACTION IN FIGHT AGAINST INFLATION

Mr. René Matte (Champlain) moved:

That this House deplores the inaction of the government in the fight against inflation on the fallacious pretext that it is an international problem and blames the government for ignoring the concrete pro-