

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, June 30, 1977

The House met at 11 a.m.

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

HOURS OF SITTING TODAY

Mr. Goodale: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. There have been discussions with regard to the hours the House should follow today, and I believe there is agreement to alter those hours. All members have, I think, been informed. I should like, therefore, to ask the Minister of Justice to move the appropriate motion.

Mr. Basford: As the parliamentary secretary has said, this motion arises from the usual discussions. I, therefore, move:

That on Thursday, June 30, 1977, the House shall take up private members' business between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., and shall adjourn at 5:00 p.m.; and

That on Tuesday, July 5, 1977, and Thursday, July 7, 1977 the House shall sit from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to consider government bills.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: As the parliamentary secretary has said quite correctly, there have been discussions through the usual channels and we in the official opposition are agreeable to this proposal. I hope that some time later today an announcement can be made with respect to the business which is to be carried on. I understand that the New Democratic Party are anxious that Bill C-51 should not be considered during the extended hours next Tuesday.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Yes, Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions and we are prepared to agree with this change of hours, or this trade-off, in order that members can get to their constituencies tonight in time for the celebrations tomorrow. The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar is quite correct: we have requested that during the extra sitting on Tuesday, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Bill C-51 not be called, since one of our members is committed to attend the law of the sea conference. We will be satisfied with any other item of government business being called that morning. I believe it is already understood that we will be on Bill C-27 on Monday. Perhaps I can assume that we will continue with Bill C-27 on Tuesday morning.

● (1110)

[Translation]

Mr. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Social Credit Party of Canada, we accept the decision of the leaders. Despite the fact that we were unable to take part in the discussion yesterday, for very important reasons, I am pleased to tell the House that we agree with the decision.

[English]

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, may I rise on the same point of order to ask the Minister of Justice about Bill C-51, whether it is coming up on Monday or not.

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, I am really uninstructed on that matter. Personally, I thought it was coming up on Monday, but I understand the House leader made some announcement and we are taking Bill C-27 on Monday. With regard to the business of the House both on Monday and for the extended hours on Tuesday, I presume that the House leader will be having discussions and making an announcement in the course of the day.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps that can be confirmed this afternoon when the House is here for the question period and the usual announcement is made. The House has heard the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Goodale: Mr. Speaker, may I make one further brief point. I should like to make a correction to yesterday's *Votes and Proceedings* respecting the business for private members' hour today. It had been recorded in *Votes and Proceedings* that after we had dealt with the constituency change of names bill, and after we had dealt with Bill C-256, we would then use the balance of the hour to deal with motions for production of papers. I think there is agreement that we not do that, but that we simply deal with the first two items of business in the course of that hour. There has been an undertaking that we will move to motions for production of papers, particularly motion No. 15 standing in the name of the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom), at the earliest opportunity next week.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the parliamentary secretary a question? Certainly, I agree with the procedure being followed, but may I ask the parliamentary secretary whether consideration was given to my private member's bill, which is the next one to be called and which has been postponed by agreement on two occasions. If it is not called today, of course, it will very likely die with the session.

Mr. Goodale: Mr. Speaker, I will take up that point specifically. It would be our hope to call it before the session adjourns, but I will try and be more specific for the hon. member later in the day.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, since the bill deals with an amendment to the Broadcasting Act, and it is now very