

Business of the House

The matter the hon. member is mentioning obviously does not arise in the actual transaction of the business of the house.

I should also point out a provision of citation 104 paragraph (5) that reads as follows:

(5) As a motion taken at the time for matters of privilege is thereby given precedence over the prearranged program of public business, the Speaker requires to be satisfied, both that there is a *prima facie* case that a breach of privilege has been committed, and also that the matter is being raised at the earliest opportunity.

Since this involves a matter which, according to the hon. member himself, goes back to Thursday last, I do not feel the question of privilege has been raised at the earliest opportunity. For this reason, I cannot find that a question of privilege exists in the circumstances.

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**PROPOSED CHANGE IN BUSINESS
ANNOUNCED FOR TODAY**

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a brief statement about the business of the house. Last night when indicating the house business for today I said we would proceed first with item No. 5 on today's order paper, second reading of Bill C-151 providing for the establishment of a fund for the economic and social development of special rural development areas, to be followed by the Customs Tariff resolution. I then indicated two other items, second reading of the collective bargaining bill for the public service and the resolution dealing with a measure to amend the Public Service Superannuation Act and other superannuation acts.

Consequent upon and after discussions with the house leaders of other parties, I should like to indicate a change in the proposed business for the house today. We propose to proceed with the first two items, the special rural development measure and the Customs Tariff resolution, and at the conclusion of those two items, we will ask for unanimous consent to proceed to the consideration of estimates now before the house.

For tomorrow's business we would propose to call the two bills standing in the name of the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, and at the conclusion of those bills proceed to consider estimates that are before the house. Because this is a Tuesday, and under the provisions of standing order 56 we

[Mr. Speaker.]

cannot proceed with the consideration of estimates without having a debatable motion and that motion counting as one of the four supply motions allowed each year under our rules, I would therefore ask unanimous consent to move:

That notwithstanding the provisions of standing order 56 or any other order of the house, Mr. Speaker shall leave the chair without question put when the order of the day is called for the house to go into committee of supply later this day; and

That the committee of supply this day then may proceed to the consideration of the estimates of the departments of forestry, labour, industry and post office, but of no other department; and

That the house resolving itself into committee of supply shall not be deemed a supply motion for the purpose of any order limiting the number of supply motions or providing the procedure for supply motions.

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

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): No, Mr. Speaker. If hon. members will look at the estimates of the Department of Forestry, which have been mentioned, they will see that they include the ARDA program, which really comes under agriculture. The agriculture committee has had the estimates of the Department of Agriculture referred to it, and I would expect that part of the estimates of the Department of Forestry would be referred to it as well because part of those estimates is concerned with agricultural arrangements.

We cannot be responsible for how the government decides to allocate the business of the various departments, but I think it would be very foolish if this type of arrangement was agreed to. It would take out of the discussion and review of the agricultural estimates a large part of the potential discussion of the ARDA program which is under the Department of Forestry.

I would also suggest that if the estimates of trade and commerce are brought before parliament it will mean there can be no committee discussion on the wheat board or the grain commission, which is also a large part of agriculture. I think this is just another indication that we really have not sat down and decided what we are going to do with estimates. If we are to be fair in dealing with estimates I am opposed to this motion.

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the hon. member would permit a question. He mentioned the estimates of the Department of Trade and Commerce. This motion has nothing to do with the estimates