

Business of the House

temporary occupiers of the surfboard—then they would expect Members opposite to oppose this Draconian brutal, callous, heartless, destructive piece of legislation that will destroy this country from one end of the land to the other.

I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that Canadians are sitting quietly. They got over the nirvana and the euphoria of the summer of 1984. They are off the bandwagon.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. As Your Honour will recall, at the time when introduction of Bills took place during Routine Proceedings, we were to have called first reading of a Bill to amend the Patent Act. At that time the Table indicated to me that the Royal Recommendation had not yet been received. Under those circumstances I am appealing to you, in view of your observations at the time that that was the case, to revert to Introduction of Bills so that this Bill may be brought forward.

We, on the part of the Government, have complied entirely with all of the requirements for this Bill to be brought forward.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member knows that that procedure can only take place with unanimous consent. The President of the Privy Council (Mr. Hnatyshyn) is, therefore, seeking unanimous consent to revert to Introduction of Bills.

I have investigated this matter because it concerned me. I feel that I must say to the House that the Royal Recommendation left the House of Commons at 9.15 a.m. today. It was signed by Her Excellency at approximately eleven o'clock this morning. Thereafter, there was a series of errors that are administrative and partly as a result of my own administration's errors—people who work for me. I have to say that I cannot yet figure out and determine why the Royal Recommendation did not get here in time. I say that to the House because I think the House has a right to know.

I am putting to the House the request which has come through the Hon. President of the Privy Council which seems appropriate to the Chair, that unanimous consent be granted as it would normally be in other circumstances. Therefore, I seek unanimous consent to revert to Introduction of Bills.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, it has not been my practice in any way to thwart the Government's right to bring forward its legislation in the past and neither would I do that today were it possible that the legislation might be dealt with in the immediate future. In five minutes or less the House will rise, and, therefore, the legislation will simply sit around.

We understand that the Bill could be introduced in September and will be at exactly the same point in the proceedings as it would be now if introduced. I have been instructed by my caucus and my colleagues to withhold the necessary unanimous consent.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, it is my impression that the Government had ample time to get its act together to make sure the Royal Recommendation was in the proper form so the Bill could be introduced.

Mr. Benjamin: The Liberals blew it several times.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: That is unfair, Herb.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): That not having taken place, again with the advice of my caucus I will not, on behalf of my caucus, grant unanimous consent to revert to the Introduction of Bills.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I would have thought better of you, Herb. That is beneath contempt and you know that.

Mr. Speaker: Unanimous consent not being granted, we will resume debate.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CANADA SHIPPING ACT AND RELATED ACTS**MEASURE TO AMEND**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski that Bill C-75, an Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act and to amend the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, the Maritime Code Act and the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act in consequence thereof, be read the third time and passed.

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude my remarks on Clause C-4 on Bill C-75.

Mr. Nunziata: Not yet.

Mr. Tobin: Just for today. I shall carry on in September. I want to acknowledge that the Royal Recommendation did not arrive in time for this Bill that would increase the cost of drugs for our senior citizens. It is an act of God.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Tobin: God interferes sometimes on behalf of the people of Canada. For that we give thanks.

[Translation]

Mrs. Mailly: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I thought the Bill before the House was Bill C-75, which deals with . . . and I just heard my hon. colleague talking about pharmaceutical products. I have some doubts as to the relevance of his speech. If he has nothing more to say, Mr. Speaker, I think he should sit down.