

Business of the House

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): My suggestion is there be no change in the rule regarding the length of speeches today, but that there be an understanding no one would request an extension of time.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): That would seem to be reasonable.

Mr. Baldwin: Yes, I think so, despite the fact that the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs should need more than 20 minutes to deal with the question.

Mr. Douglas (Assiniboia): I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. I should like to correct the impression that the hon. member attempted to leave a few minutes ago that I was leaking information for the government. Quite the opposite is true in this case. It was I who informed the minister of the danger in the situation with regard to Durum producers and the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek based his question on information I provided to him.

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Speaker, on the same question of privilege may I say that I think perhaps the hon. member for Assiniboia assumed too much. At least he does so far as I am concerned. Maybe the minister can speak for himself. I would never have mentioned anything about it if the minister had not suggested it was the hon. member for Assiniboia who was bringing him all this information. I said this information was leaked to the Durum producers and the people of western Canada by the minister through the Liberal senator from Assiniboia and the hon. member for Assiniboia. The minister would not answer the question. He has not yet answered whether the government intends to pay the Durum producers what is rightfully theirs.

I studied this problem long before the hon. member for Assiniboia—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has given his comments. I do not think there really is a question of privilege. In view of the fact that the hon. member had referred to the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek, I thought that member should be allowed to say a word. Since we have recognized there is some urgency involved in allowing hon. members to participate in the very important debate, and that hon. members' contributions be restricted to

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

20 minutes, I suggest we should commence the debate which is the order of business for today as soon as possible.

Mr. McIntosh: I just want to put the record straight—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I have ruled there is no question of privilege and I ask the Clerk to call the order of business for today.

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Speaker, you allowed the hon. member to get his whole statement on the record—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS**BUSINESS OF SUPPLY**

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES TO PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT AND CONTROL INFLATION

Mr. Lewis (for Mr. Saltsman) moved:

That this House condemns the Government's policies which have deliberately created unemployment up to a crisis level, thus placing the country in danger of a recession, but which have failed to stop the rapid and continuing increase in the cost of living, and this House therefore calls for the immediate implementation of full employment measures, and a commitment to a comprehensive prices and incomes policy.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I regret that the hon. member for Waterloo (Mr. Saltsman) unfortunately has a cold which has affected his voice so that he is unable to move his motion. My colleagues and I thought it would be valuable for this House to discuss the question now before it between the time of the conference which ended the other day and the time of the conference of first ministers which is to take place on Monday.

We place in the forefront of our concern, as I suggest should every member of this House, the unemployment figures which were released only this morning. I am sorry the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. MacEachen) is not here because I want to say to him that in explaining those figures he made the kind of statistical statement, undoubtedly in complete innocence, which misleads the House and the people of Canada. The fact of the matter is that, despite the gracious acknowledgement from the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings (Mr. Hees), if you look at the unemployment statistics the seasonally adjusted figure for January is almost always the lowest in the year