

Agriculture Canada and the Alberta Department of Agriculture, along with other specialists, to go to Hawaii to determine whether it was in fact feasible. They have really found no technical reason for not bringing in honey bees from Hawaii.

• (1500)

We are looking at that and hope that we will be able to put in place the appropriate kind of protocol so that these beekeepers who are faced with having to bring in bees from New Zealand and Australia at considerable expense will be able to be accommodated. It is in that spirit that we are responding to this issue.

I will give the hon. member the assurance that we will ensure that the integrity of the bee population in Canada will be preserved.

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## POINT OF ORDER

### ALLOTTED DAY

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona):** Mr. Speaker, I understood that there was a point of privilege, but with respect to my point of order, the Minister of National Health and Welfare said in the House in answer to a question that the motion before the House on supply day was a matter of non-confidence. Ever since the adoption of the McGrath committee report, these motions have not been matters of non-confidence. The language of confidence was taken out of the Standing Orders precisely so that motions of this kind would not be regarded as motions of confidence or non-confidence by either government or opposition.

I call to your attention the day that we unanimously passed a motion, exactly the same kind of motion, having to do with the preservation of South Moresby.

Is the government saying that it should have fallen on that day because we unanimously adopted a motion of this kind? Not so. The same thing applies today. We could adopt this motion unanimously affirming medicare. The government refuses to do that. But do not let them hide behind the Standing Orders.

### Point of Order

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Mr. Speaker, there is no attempt to hide behind Standing Orders. There is an attempt to follow the Standing Orders on this side of the House.

**An hon. member:** Bull.

**Mr. Andre:** The hon. member should clean up his language a little bit and perhaps do the courtesy of being civil enough to listen.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member has risen on a point of order. The hon. government House leader is replying. I know all hon. members would want to give him the courtesy of being able to make his reply.

**Mr. Andre:** Mr. Speaker, as you know, allotted days for the business of supply, which is what opposition days are officially called, are a replacement for a previous practice of some years now, back prior to 1969, where in fulfilling the fundamental purpose of Parliament, namely challenging the question of supply, members used to challenge the Appropriations Act, indicating their concern or objection to various items within the Appropriations Act.

For reasons of efficiency or what have you in the House of Commons, those rules were changed in 1969 and the opposition was allotted certain days for which they could put down motions to challenge items in the Appropriations Act which were, by definition, matters of confidence; that is, appropriations by the government goes to the fundamentals of what Parliament is all about.

Supply is what this place is all about.

The hon. member sits in his seat and keeps barking. Why will he not do the courtesy of allowing me to reply to his point of order. He shouts profanities and he shouts from his seat as opposed to listening.

If the hon. member were raising in more temperate tones the concern about whether in fact these motions, in the way they are worded, in fact meet that purpose any longer, I think that would be a valuable discussion.

I would ask him to consider that taking his suggestion, his declaration, at face value will then have in essence removed from the procedures of Parliament the one mechanism wherein Parliament challenges the appropriations government asks of this House. That is the purpose of—