

*Business of the House*

Democrats, Newfoundlanders, Albertans, people from Ontario and British Columbia, have come together to achieve a document that in terms of the process, I emphasize, was incompatible in its spirit of magnanimity and give and take.

I want to say that it is the deeply felt view of my colleagues and myself that the charter of rights that we fought for, the independent Constitution that we fought for, the amending formula that we fought for and that we had built into the old document, when we see them in their new form, in the present document that has been agreed upon, will contain acceptable and desirable alternatives. I strongly hope that is the case.

[Translation]

In conclusion, I must say I am personally very sad that the Quebec government has not deemed it possible to sign the agreement. Because it represents a very special region and a unique nation in Canada, its decision is of paramount importance. I hope that future amendments will make it possible for the Quebec government to change its mind.

[English]

The Prime Minister has indicated that certain efforts will be made to achieve that very desirable goal.

I think it is a fundamental commitment of members on all sides of the House that when it comes to the people of the province of Quebec, we must do everything we can to make Quebecers feel that they can be at the same time Quebecois and good Canadians.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Broadbent:** I will conclude, Madam Speaker, by again congratulating the Prime Minister and the Premiers involved in this very difficult process on what they have achieved today. I want to indicate that I will be only too willing to sit down with the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Official Opposition tomorrow to work out the specific details of how we can bring this important process to a final and productive conclusion.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

## WEEKLY STATEMENT

**Mr. Nielsen:** Madam Speaker, may I direct the usual Thursday question to the President of the Privy Council and ask him what the business of the House is going to be for the remainder of this week and as far into next week as he can tell. There is, of course, Remembrance Day next Wednesday and there is, of course, the budget on November 12. I wonder if the minister could fill in the gaps so that we may know where we are going next week.

**Mr. Pinard:** Madam Speaker, as I told my hon. colleague before question period, we will have a House leaders' meeting at five o'clock this afternoon.

**Mr. Clark:** Just for precision, can we assume that the budget will be brought in on November 12?

**Mr. Pinard:** Madam Speaker, it is up to the Minister of Finance to give the proper notice of this so I will not do his job. He is able to do it himself, and very well.

**Mr. Clark:** Madam Speaker, while it has been the suspicion of some of us for some time that when the Minister of Finance was here he was, in effect, the government House leader, and while it is not proper for me to direct a question to him at this point, I wonder if the government House leader might lean forward in his seat and whisper in the ear of his senior adviser. Since it is very important to the country to know that, now that we have made some progress on constitutional matters, the very real urgency and priority of dealing with the economy will not be shunted backwards again, and since we all have plans to make, I wonder if we could have an assurance either from the Minister of Finance or from the government House leader that the solemn undertaking given in this House that a budget will be brought down on November 12 will be honoured.

[Translation]

**Mr. Pinard:** Madam Speaker, there will be a meeting of the House Leaders at five o'clock. I will then provide his own House Leader with further information, to be passed on to him.

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[English]

**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

## PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF PROVINCIAL MINISTERS

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development):** Madam Speaker, with your permission I should like to salute in our gallery some ministers who have worked almost all night to achieve agreement: Mr. Johnston from Alberta, Mr. Romanow from Saskatchewan, Mr. Wells from Ontario, Mr. Mercier, the Attorney-General of Manitoba, and Mr. McMurtry, the Attorney-General of Ontario.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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**PETITIONS**

## TABLING OF REPORTS OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

**Madam Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has laid upon the Table reports of the Clerk of Petitions stating that he has examined the petitions presented by hon. members on Wednesday, November 4, 1981, and finds that they meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.