

Feed Grain

[Translation]

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, after listening carefully from last night on to this late hour to all those who took part in this debate, I should like to let you know that I am of those who believe in all sincerity that in our modern times it is not necessary for us members of Parliament to spend a whole night to try and impress upon Canadians that members of Parliament in Ottawa do their job. Even if we have emergency debates, I sincerely believe it is not necessarily to have them dragging on until half past three or four o'clock in the morning so that we can boldly say on the next day: We did not adjourn until whatever hour in the morning. You will realize too, Mr. Speaker, that we still have work to do tomorrow, particularly those who will sit on committees and that this makes it a fairly difficult task for us.

[English]

There is no doubt in my mind that the fact that we are sitting here all night will not impress any constituents or in fact any Canadians, and if there are any hon. members who say so I must tell them that I do not agree with them because I believe, as was mentioned by an hon. member on this side a while ago, that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) very ably answered the question that was put to him in the House by saying that the matter was being looked after, and also that the Department of Agriculture was doing its best. We know what the problems are.

I do not think hon. members should sit here all night and play the ball game in which each of them rises and voices an opinion in repetition of what was said all night. We are not accomplishing anything. While we are talking about the rules and regulations of the House, I suggest that a provision should be brought in to stop—here I will use a word which might not be to the liking of every one—this nonsensical discussion which is taking place until the wee hours of the morning.

Mr. McKinley: I rise on a point of order. In some ways I have to agree with the hon. member who has just spoken. I think it is kind of hon. members to have stayed around until this late hour, but we have to recognize the fact that there are problems facing this country. There are also problems within the cabinet, such as the problem of abortion. There is a fight going on between two ministers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please, I invite the hon. member to express his point of order. Right now he is prolonging the debate on the arguments put forward by the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay). I do not wish to prevent the hon. member from raising a point of order, but according to our rules he is not entitled to speak a second time. If he wishes to make his point of order, he should do so directly.

Mr. McKinley: I agree with you, Mr. Speaker. We must recognize that there are problems facing this country and sometimes it is up to the opposition to make the government take action I think all members of the opposition were trying to do that today. If the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay) does not like it, then all I can say to him is that if it is too hot, he should get out of the kitchen.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): I rise on the same point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. This is hardly a point of order.

Mr. Elzinga: I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I agree sincerely with the point made by the hon. member for Huron-Middlesex (Mr. McKinley). I must say that I am very disappointed with the point made by the hon. member for St. Boniface. He should not be so quick to judge others by his own character traits.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): On the same question of privilege—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Surely they can put their message across before twelve o'clock.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I must say that none of the remarks that have been made were points of order. Perhaps I should add that the best judges of our actions are the people of Canada. I think we should leave it to them.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could get the unanimous agreement of members who are here that it is time for us to go home.

[Translation]

Mr. Armand Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, since it is 3.40 a.m., I shall only take a few minutes to congratulate both movers of the motion and ask the minister whether he thinks Quebec is still part of the Confederation. I want to ask him to take the necessary measures to solve the problem.