

Excise Tax

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When the House rose at six o'clock, the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen) had the floor.

Mr. Friesen: Mr. Speaker—

M. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but I am told by the Minister of State for Finance (Mr. Bussières) that he has had consultations with his colleagues on the other side and that they have come to an agreement. So before my hon. colleague goes on with his speech, perhaps we could settle that matter by reverting to motions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there unanimous agreement to reverting to motions?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

WAYS AND MEANS

TABLING OF NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, as I explained briefly this afternoon, I ask the unanimous consent of the House to table two notices of ways and means motions, one concerning the Excise Tax Act and the other Excise Act. I have already indicated that this is necessary because we want to amend the provision concerning the quarterly indexation for tobacco and alcoholic beverages to provide for a yearly indexation. My explanations failed to convince the hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert), and he was quite right since the tabling of a ways and means motion is justified if the period over which the indexation will apply is being changed, thus bringing about a change in revenue. As I said, I failed to convince the hon. member this afternoon, but following our discussions and after examining this provision concerning the new period, the hon. member for Edmonton West informed me that a ways and means motion was required to make such a change.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, with the unanimous consent of the House, I shall now table the two ways and means motions and ask the House to approve them. I shall also ask the unanimous consent of the House to table the amendments related to these ways and means motions, namely three amendments which will provide for a yearly indexation instead of a quarterly indexation. I wish to thank the hon. members for their excellent co-operation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The minister asks the unanimous consent of the House to table two ways and means motions. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

THE EXCISE ACT (2)

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of State (Finance)) moved:

That a Ways and Means Motion to amend the Excise Act, notice of which was tabled in the House on Tuesday, May 26, 1981, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

THE EXCISE ACT (3)

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of State (Finance)) moved:

That a Ways and Means Motion to amend the Excise Tax Act, notice of which was tabled in the House on Tuesday, May 26, 1981, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Bussières: Mr. Speaker, of course, the three amendments Nos. 8, 13 and 58 already tabled are automatically withdrawn and replaced by the three amendments I have just tabled.

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: As something which follows from what the minister has just done, the minister is seeking agreement to withdraw two amendments from the Order Paper.

Mr. Knowles: Three.

Mr. Lambert: Mr. Speaker, may I suggest that perhaps the substituted amendments could occupy the same numerical positions as the original amendments because they fall into sequence as to, shall we say, the "logicality" of the debate. We are quite in agreement with that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In order to have it clear, there is, first, unanimous consent respecting the two ways and means motions of the minister, and then two amendments will be withdrawn, but the same numerical sequence will be followed.

Mr. Knowles: Three others.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Three others will be withdrawn, but there will be the same numerical sequence for the new material. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is so ordered.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

EXCISE TAX ACT AND EXCISE ACT
MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of Bill C-57, to amend the Excise Tax Act and the Excise Act and to provide for a revenue tax in respect of petroleum and gas, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, and motions Nos. 1 and 3 (Mr. Blenkarn).

● (2010)

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock-North Delta): I do not know what right the hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert) has to talk about the "logicality" of the debate