

Maintenance of Ports Operations Act, 1986

Private Members' Business originally scheduled for Monday, November 17, 1986, standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Davenport, shall be considered on Tuesday, November 18, 1986, between the hours of 5.00 o'clock p.m. and 6.00 o'clock p.m.

That upon the completion of the adjournment proceedings pursuant to Standing Order 66, on Tuesday, November 18, 1986, Mr. Speaker shall suspend the sitting to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to Bill C-24; and,

That, upon the giving of Royal Assent to the Bill, Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the House until the next sitting day.

Mr. Axworthy: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. As the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) indicated, we are in agreement with the order. I would only raise one caution and that is that during the course of second reading debate thus far, several proposals for possible amendments to the Bill have come forward. I am not sure if the Minister is disposed to this or not, but members of the Opposition have been putting them forward in the spirit of genuinely wishing to improve the Bill.

I just hope that the House Leader will keep in mind when establishing the time allocation that there may be possibilities for amendments to be accepted along the way. I hope we do not end up with a very short time available to us to consider what might be useful amendments to the Bill before it passes at 4.45 p.m. I simply raise that as a matter that ought to be taken into account when allocating time among House Leaders.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, of course, I confirm that we agree with the order and there is certainly consent in this corner of the House to it. I would like to support the suggestion made by the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry (Mr. Axworthy) that we informally ensure that we allocate enough time to agree on amendments if there are some on which we can agree.

We heard an example a few moments ago of a member of the government Party suggesting an amendment, one which we on this side of the House would support. There may be several amendments to that effect, and if we had some kind of informal agreement that we would have a lot of time to do that later on, I am sure we would all benefit from it.

Mr. Cadieux: Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to look at any suggestion to amend the Bill if it is to improve the Bill. There is no problem with that. I note that the Member from the NDP has already indicated that we would be given amendments in advance so that we would have time to look at them. If by tomorrow morning we have all the proposed amendments from both Parties, I would be more than willing to look at them and to allow time in order to dispose of them.

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. Further to what the Minister of Labour (Mr. Cadieux) has just said, I hope as well that should he feel there are some amendments to be made, he would provide us with copies in advance so that we may discuss them.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Very well. Does the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council (Mr. Mazankowski) have the unanimous consent of the House to move his motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion (Mr. Mazankowski) agreed to.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, on a further point of order, I seek the co-operation and consent of the House for another matter, if I may. The Minister of National Revenue (Mr. MacKay) made a very important statement in the House this morning. There have been some developments in regard to that and he would like to make a further report on it. He has contacted the critics of the two opposition Parties. I understand that the representative of the New Democratic Party is here but the representative of the Liberal Party may not be here. Perhaps the Minister could wait until the critic arrives or perhaps he could proceed now. It is a very short statement simply describing a new development that has occurred. Consistent with the spirit of keeping the House up to date, he would seek your support and co-operation so that he may make that statement now.

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, we would like to have our critic present. I know he is on his way to the House so perhaps we could continue with debate and then proceed in another five or 10 minutes.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, on the same point, perhaps any time used by this statement and replies to it could be added on after six o'clock so that we do not lose any time to discuss the ports issue. Is that agreed?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is there such unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

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MAINTENANCE OF PORTS OPERATIONS ACT, 1986

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Cadieux that Bill C-24, an Act to provide for the maintenance of ports operations, be read the second time and, by unanimous consent, referred to Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, I have a few points to make with regard to Bill C-24. The problem that is before us today and which is occurring on the West Coast