Government Notices of Motion

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, did I understand the Parliamentary Secretary to tell us that the Government's motion is transferred to Government Orders as of now, and that it will be taken up at the next sitting of the House? Is that what he just told us?

Mr. Speaker: There were two Government Notices of Motions standing on the Order Paper which were to be transferred today. I believe the Parliamentary Secretary is in effect introducing a business question by indicating the intention to call that matter tomorrow. I believe that is what happened.

Mr. Dick: On a point of order, I had risen to let Hon. Members know in the House that this matter of Bill C-70 will be dealt with at eleven o'clock tomorrow morning.

Hon. Members might also like to know that it is the intention of the Government to call the reference dealing with the Canadian Commercial Bank and the Northland Bank for tomorrow afternoon at three o'clock p.m. or when we get to Orders of the Day.

* * *

FINANCE, TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

On the Order: Government Notices of Motions:

September 11, 1985—the President of the Privy Council:

That the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs be empowered to consider and report on the events leading up to the decisions announced by the Minister of State (Finance) on September 1, 1985, with respect to the Canadian Commercial Bank and the Northland Bank, and in particular,

1) the decision to appoint curators to the Northland Bank and to the Canadian Commercial Bank;

2) the decision to seek parliamentary authority to compensate uninsured depositors for amounts outstanding on September 1, 1985; and

3) the decision to undertake regulatory reform to strengthen the regulatory powers of federal supervisory authorities; and

That the Committee present its final report no later than November 30, 1985.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Section (2) of Standing Order 26, this Government Notice of Motion stands transferred to and ordered for consideration under Government Orders later this day or at the next sitting of the House.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I want to begin my point of order by saying that I find this procedure to be most offensive. If it is the Government's intention to bypass the normal channels and to negotiate satisfactory terms and conditions in advance of the introduction of the motion to concur in the resolution, then we will stop co-operating with this Government on all matters. I want to make it quite clear that if it is the intention of the Government to disrupt the normally orderly practices of the House, then that disruption will continue indefinitely.

It is most unusual, Mr. Speaker, for the Parliamentary Secretary to rise and to indicate Government business. In fact, that is normally the prerogative of the Minister, not the prerogative of a Parliamentary Secretary.

• (1510)

Mr. Speaker: Order. First, I am not sure what the point of the last comment is. It is certainly the privilege of a Minister, in this case the Government House Leader (Mr. Hnatyshyn), to ask his Parliamentary Secretary to rise in his place. I take it that is what the Parliamentary Secretary was doing. It was precisely because we were confused about which matter the Parliamentary Secretary was referring to that I asked for clarity earlier. We got clarity on the National Health and Welfare Bill, but I take it the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary has now indicated something as well with regard to the other order of reference. That is what I was concerned about earlier.

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, I thought I had been quite clear that one matter was being dealt with at eleven o'clock and one after three. I should point out that I understood some discussions had been taking place.

Mr. Deans: None.

Mr. Dick: But I will tell the Hon. Member that we intend to co-operate. We are giving notice almost 24 hours in advance which is more than members of the NDP did last week when they wasted a whole day by bringing in something for reference without telling anyone else. They did not co-operate one bit.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deans: You can applaud, Jake, but you will get nothing through from now until Christmas.

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker-

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Dick: —I think that the NDP—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Deans: I will stand up and say it again.

Mr. Dick: —has wrecked this House—

Mr. Speaker: I invite the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary to resume his seat.

Mr. Deans: I am telling you right now you will get nothing through until Christmas.

Mr. Dick: I want that on the record.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Dick: You are irresponsible, Deans.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I did check the lunar calendar.

Mr. Gauthier: And?

Mr. Speaker: I was wrong. The full moon was not last week, it is this coming Saturday and I can see what is happening.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!