

Business of the House

That with regard to Bill C-151, an Act to provide supplementary borrowing authority, when the said Bill has been read a second time, it shall be referred to a Committee of the Whole;

That at the appropriate time in Committee of the Whole stage of the said Bill, a Minister of the Crown shall propose an amendment to delete, in line 14 at page one of the said Bill, the word "fourteen", and to substitute therefor the word "ten";

That at 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 2, the said Bill shall be called and, without further debate, all questions necessary to dispose of all remaining stages of the said Bill shall be put forthwith and successively without further debate or amendment, except as provided in this order;

That, if necessary for the execution of this order, the House may sit beyond the ordinary time of adjournment;

That the Standing Orders be amended by adding immediately after Standing Order 79 the following:

"(a) If, at any time before March 31, 1984, a Minister of the Crown introduces a Bill to provide additional supplementary borrowing authority of not more than \$4 billion, the said Bill shall, after receiving second reading, be considered in a Committee of the Whole and not later than 15 minutes before the expiry of the time appointed for the consideration of Government business on the third day that the said Bill is debated, any proceedings before the House shall be interrupted and all questions necessary for the disposal of all remaining stages of the said Bill shall be put forthwith and successively without further debate or amendment, and provided that the said Standing Order 79(a) shall expire when any Bill mentioned therein has been finally disposed of".

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent for this House order. It seems that, after consultation, Your Honour will obtain it.

● (1600)

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, indeed there were meetings to discuss this matter. I want to point out that our speeches during the debate consistently insisted that all the Government required was \$10 billion. We have consistently suggested in all of our speeches on this side that \$4 billion was not required by the Government and we insisted upon an amendment coming forward to reduce the amount to what the Government actually required in accordance with its own financial statements.

Yesterday afternoon, our Members debated at length. From lunch hour to the time of adjournment there was only one NDP Member who came forward to assist us in this debate. We are, however, prepared to give unanimous consent in our Party because this agreement complies with an agreement we made earlier this session. For those reasons we are in agreement. As I have indicated to the Government House Leader, we do not agree with the preamble but we agree with the wording of the House order.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to enter into a nit-picking discussion with the Opposition House leader, but if he could count he would have been able to see that there were four NDP speakers yesterday. We took our turn and we told the Government that we were very much opposed to what it was doing. We continue to be opposed to it. We worked on an arrangement that seemed to satisfy the needs of everyone.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, it seems there is agreement on the House order. Everyone has stated their views. The Government is satisfied with a three-day debate to get the full amount of \$14.7 billion if needed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): The House has heard the proposal made by the President of the Privy Council. Is there unanimous agreement that the proposal be made an Order of the House?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Agreed and so ordered.

The Chair will recognize the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence in pursuit of his intervention. As proposed earlier by the President of the Privy Council, the amount of time given by the President of the Privy Council will not be deducted from the time allowed to the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary.

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NARCOTIC CONTROL ACT**AMENDMENT RESPECTING THERAPEUTIC USE OF HEROIN**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton) that Bill C-684, an Act to amend the Narcotic Control Act (therapeutic use of heroin), be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs.

Mr. Hudecki: Mr. Speaker, before the intervention by the Government House Leader (Mr. Pinard), I was discussing the side effects of the use of heroin in the treatment of people with incurable illnesses. These side effects include very severe respiratory depression and some difficulty in controlling the cough reflex which would result in a greater susceptibility to pneumonia. These side effects which these people experience in the hospital will also show themselves at a time when they want cerebral lucidity and to enjoy the company of their friends. It is at that time that many of their normal bodily functions are impaired.

There was a time when a so-called cocktail was prepared using heroin. These were given to the patients so they could take them at will. While this would frequently control the pain, the patient would be extremely constipated, have very poor insight as to what was happening and a sense of euphoria inconsistent with the situation. This would be at the very time these people would want to communicate and understand what has happening while in the company of their immediate friends and relatives.

Currently there are a great number of alternative methods of controlling pain. These methods include morphine which, if properly used, is most active. There are a variety of anti-depressants which are useful since most of these people do not only complain of pain but are emotionally distressed and upset. Many of them benefit much more from appropriate anti-depressants.

There are also a number of physical means by which pain can be controlled, such as stimulation through the skin. Neurosurgeons can use a variety of injections. It is not necessary to rely on heroin in order to control pain.