

Business of the House

in regard to the government House leader bringing forward some bill that is not in the package. Otherwise there might be quite a widespread feeling in some parts of the House that there has been a breach of good faith by the hon. gentleman.

Mr. Sharp: On the same point of order, Mr. Speaker, the extended hours were introduced in order to enable us basically to get ahead with Bill C-84. However, I would indicate—and I think this will support the position I have taken—that while we would not insist upon the passage of C-83, for example, it would be discussed as long as the House was in session and progress could be made. I think we are in very much the same position on Bill C-61, that the government would like to see it approved but would not keep the House in session for the purpose of discussing Bill C-61. Moreover, we would not be discussing Bill C-61 during any of the extended hours.

Mr. Paproski: Are we going to have extended hours on Tuesday and Thursday of next week? We agreed that once Bill C-84 was passed that was it, or did it relate to all government business?

Mr. Sharp: The order speaks for itself, Mr. Speaker. At one time at an earlier stage we negotiated for extended hours only for the purpose of considering the second reading of Bill C-84. Then at a later stage the negotiations were changed and there was a clear understanding, which is expressed in the order, that the extended hours and the end of private members' hours extend until the adjournment.

Mr. Towers: On the same point of order, Mr. Speaker, would the government House leader give us his word that he will not bring Bill C-83 on until the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams), who is leading the discussion at the present time in committee on Bill C-84, has at least had an opportunity to debate it? Also in view of the fact that the justice committee is going to be sitting all day Monday, and that it sat this morning and this afternoon, surely to goodness the government House leader will not bring Bill C-83 on and debate it in the House at the same time as the justice committee is sitting. Could we have a promise from the House leader that he will not bring Bill C-83 on without at least our having an opportunity to debate the issue, or until Bill C-84 is reported to the House?

Mr. Sharp: I understand the concern of the hon. member and this is the reason, for example, that I did not call Bill C-83 today or call it as the first order of business on Monday. However, I do want to make it clear that on Tuesday we would resume consideration of Bill C-83, because by that time, by its own order, the committee would have reported. I am prepared to say that if the House does approve Bill C-61 during Monday I would adjourn the House and not call Bill C-83 if at that time the committee is still sitting. When the committee has reported, I think it would be proper to bring Bill C-83 into the House. I quite understand the hon. member's concern, and it is the reason I did not call Bill C-83 today.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I assure my good friend from Edmonton Centre that there will be no extended hours on Thursday. Thursday is a holiday.

Mr. Paproski: I should like to ask the government House leader what it is we shall be doing on Friday. If he has a program all set up for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, what about Friday?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, the situation is this, as I understand it. The Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs has an order which requires that the bill be reported before some time on the evening of Monday. It would require the unanimous consent of the House for the report to be received at that time. If that consent is denied, which I hope will not be the case—I hope everyone is interested in disposing of the matter and in allowing the debate to proceed without unnecessary delay—if someone does object, and it only takes one voice to object, then the report would be made on Tuesday at two o'clock. That would require 48 hours' notice before we could take up report stage, which would take us to Friday, so we will be sitting on Friday to take up consideration of the report stage of Bill C-84.

Some hon. Members: Five o'clock.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed that we call it five o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being five o'clock this House stands adjourned until Monday next at two o'clock p.m.

At 4.38 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.