

*Financial Administration Act*

**Mr. Yurko:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. I am not sure that I have full clarification in my mind as to what is going on in the House at this particular moment. The Government House Leader indicated that an agreement has been reached to make certain that the Bill passes today. I recognize that I sit as an independent and can only speak once on second reading and once on third reading, I hope.

**Mr. Nielsen:** But you are unlimited in Committee of the Whole.

**Mr. Yurko:** I know that. I can speak during Committee of the Whole in terms of the number of amendments that are made, and indeed they are quite substantive. If a person were to get really interested in asking questions about these amendments, I imagine he could hold the Bill up for several hours and indeed for several days.

My point of view again, Mr. Speaker, is not that I am particularly interested in the Bill. I am interested in the procedure which goes on in the House with respect to independents who may be here in the future. There may be 20 of us in the future, I do not know. I am concerned that an agreement has been reached between the three Parties indicating that the Bill should be passed today without putting the matter by way of a vote of unanimous consent in the House. If the matter were to be put and indeed unanimous consent were to be requested, I would be prepared to give that unanimous consent without too much difficulty. However, the point I make is, how can an agreement be made in such a way that it impinges upon my rights in the House without my being party to that agreement?

As I said, if I wished to become miserable, I could certainly delay this Bill beyond the course of the day, particularly in Committee of the Whole. I simply ask again for clarification from the Government House Leader as to whether a request for unanimous consent to this agreement should be put in the House or whether he is simply prepared to go ahead, hoping that it will indeed pass in the course of the day if I do not become too mouthy, if you wish, in terms of asking questions in Committee of the Whole.

**Mr. Nielsen:** He was asking for consent.

**Mr. Yurko:** If he is asking for consent, then I expect the Speaker will put the request for unanimous consent to deal with the Bill in its entirety this day to the House. If the Speaker does so, then I would certainly be prepared to give my consent.

**Mr. Pinard:** Mr. Speaker, if you seek that consent, we are prepared to give that consent as well.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin):** Order. In that case, the House has heard the proposal put forward by the Hon. President of the Privy Council to the effect that the House will deal today with all three stages of Bill C-96, an Act to amend the Financial Administration Act. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

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

When debate adjourned on Bill C-96 at a previous sitting of the House, the Hon. Member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Andre) had the floor. It is my understanding that there has been, shall I say, changes in responsibilities on the part of certain Hon. Members.

The Hon. Member for Calgary Centre not being available at this time, the Chair would normally recognize a Member of the New Democratic Party. However, the House may wish to give its consent to hear out the Hon. Member for Capilano who, I understand, wishes to contribute to the debate at this time.

● (1120)

**Mr. Nielsen:** Mr. Speaker, before we do that I think, for the sake of order and our records, the Chair should put the motion once again as amended by the Government House Leader, that rather than the Bill going to the Standing Committee, it be referred at the termination of second reading to a Committee of the Whole.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin):** Mr. Gray, seconded by Mr. Pepin, moves:

That Bill C-96, an Act to amend the Financial Administration Act, be now read a second time and, by unanimous consent, referred to a Committee of the Whole.

It is the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Deans:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Just going back to the point you were making before you asked for consent to change the procedure, I would be quite delighted to hear the Hon. Member for Capilano. I know that he has a lot to offer. I think it would be appropriate to recognize him in lieu of the Member for Calgary Centre, who is not here now.

**Mr. Huntington:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am a little confused. The Hon. Member for Calgary Centre is the Official Opposition critic for defence and I believe he is in the estimates committee. I am a little confused at your wording. You said "heard out". Are you giving me the balance of his time? Otherwise, I would just as soon go to the Hon. Member for Edmonton East and then I would like ten or 15 minutes at least.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin):** The Chair is prepared to recognize any Member who wishes to speak at this time.

I think I should explain to the House the conundrum that we are in at this stage. I understand that changes have been made in certain responsibilities. I understand the Hon. Member for Capilano is now the official spokesman for his Party. I am attempting to accommodate everyone. If the Hon. Member for Capilano wishes me to recognize another Hon. Member, I am prepared to do that as well. I will recognize whoever rises. The Hon. Member for Capilano.