

Business of the House

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Yes, but that would be the beginning.

Mr. Churchill: I am not looking forward with too great pleasure to the end of my hon. friend's association with this house but there are some here who might appreciate it. On Monday we propose dealing with the following items under government orders which we had hoped to get at much earlier. The first item will be No. 10 on today's order paper, the setting up of a select committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Speaker. The second item will be No. 6, the resolution in my name dealing with amendments to the Veterans Land Act. The third will be second reading of Bill No. C-75, an act to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act. The fourth item will be second reading of Bill No. C-38 dealing with financial and other statistics. That would be the business for Monday. We will see what progress we make. If possible I should like to carry on with legislation on Tuesday; then on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday deal with dispatch with the final supplementaries for the fiscal year which is just about terminating; and then the normal interim supply for one month, which is the customary procedure at the end of March.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): If I may make a comment, I am rather amazed that the government leader should indicate that if we should finish these various items we may deal toward the end of the week with supply, in the hope that there will be some dispatch with regard to supply because of the approach of the end of the month. That statement rather amazes me in the light of the fact that the first item we are going to discuss on Monday is a resolution that encompasses consideration of the closure rule when what the hon. gentleman has just proposed now is one of the most effective forms of closure I have ever heard suggested in this house, namely, that we should take supply in the dying days of the month in the hope that it will be passed before the end of the month in order to pay for salaries and the like. I suggest that is a form of closure that is not worthy of the hon. gentleman.

Mr. Fulton: You were a past master of the practice in your days.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The Minister of Justice cannot withhold comment.

Mr. Fulton: When such inaccurate statements are made they have to be corrected.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I would suggest to the hon. leader of the house, who is more understanding in these matters than the Minister of Justice—

Mr. Fulton: And than you.

[Mr. Churchill.]

Mr. Martin (Essex East):—that I hope in view of this order of business which the government is imposing on us, the Minister of Finance will not be encouraged to repeat the speech he made the other day when he said that unless we passed the supplementary estimates by such and such a time people were going to go without their salaries and the like. I hope it will not be the case, when we have to engage in the discussion that we must have on the supplementary estimates, that the Minister of Finance will not again rise in that unctuous way which he can adopt when he wants to or chooses to, and that the estimates will receive the consideration to which they are entitled.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I want to say—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Fulton: We have had enough of this.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps in the interval of waiting for Black Rod there is no more entertaining way of passing the time than listening to the hon. member for Essex East, but I am afraid his remarks are going a little bit beyond what is proper in asking the house leader about the business for next week.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I was provoked.

Mr. Speaker: Enticed is the word.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I did not get a chance.

Mr. Speaker: We might suspend the sitting without leaving the house until the Gentleman Usher arrives.

Mr. Herridge: I rise for the purpose of expressing my concurrence in the statesmanlike approach taken by the main agricultural spokesman for the opposition. I support his stand and his criticism of the government for introducing this legislation at this late date, when we all know there is a necessity to pass these supplementary estimates as expeditiously as possible. There is no necessity for me to repeat the excellent exposition of the situation placed before the house by the hon. member for Essex East.

Mr. Churchill: This is what the former Liberal government did. It dealt with the final supplementaries on the last day of March.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Never.

Mr. Churchill: The record shows that very clearly and I shall give that record on Monday.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I wish to observe again—