

now is jumping into the fray and learning from our mistakes, instead of seeking advice first from the athletes themselves and others with expertise.

I support the supplementary estimates. I think the program is a beginning. But I urge the government to widen the opportunities available to students and to non-students. I urge the government to finance necessary support programs such as coaching and the provision of physical facilities such as I have mentioned. Finally, I would ask the government to seek advice from those involved in this field so that it may produce a comprehensive, progressive and planned program for sport in Canada.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Does the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe) wish to speak to the motions now before the House?

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

I would be glad to say a few words about the expenses indulged in with the savings of Canadians. We are now considering supplementary estimates amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars with a view to straightening out our economy.

Mr. Speaker, our economy is becoming more and more complicated. However, we have to find out where funds are most needed and then meet those needs. In that regard my colleagues of other parties have talked about the old age security pension.

I am—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but it being four o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper—

[English]

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): In rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Before we leave government business may I ask the acting House leader, whoever he or she may be, whether the arrangements agreed to earlier in terms of concluding the notice stage and moving to committee of the whole still hold good as far as Monday is concerned?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles).

An hon. Member: Oh, oh! There he is.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): May I, as one of those who was a party to those discussions, indicate that there was agreement that early on Monday we would finish the debate on these nine notices and move to second reading of the bill.

Mr. Lang: I thank the hon. member for that information. I did not understand the earlier discussion about what the agreement was and I do not understand it now. But I am glad agreement has been reached.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): May I add there will not be any recorded votes on the nine notices. If any

Indian Affairs

vote is desired it will come later on, on the bill itself or in committee.

• (1600)

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, we are grateful for these comments from the "government House leader" to my left.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. Is the Chair to understand that this is to be made an order, or that an order be made on Monday?

Mr. Lefebvre: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, this was made a House order at the request of the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) earlier this day.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): It being four o'clock p.m., the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, public bills, notices of motions, private bills.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

INDIAN ACT

AMENDMENT TO LOWER VOTING AGE TO EIGHTEEN FOR BAND ELECTIONS

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma) moved that Bill C-16, to amend the Indian Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

He said: Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on the amendment before the House this afternoon in the form of Bill C-16, I am very happy to be able to have the bill before the House. Although it has been listed on the order paper during the two previous sessions, this is the first time it has had an opportunity to be debated.

The purpose of this bill is very simple. It is to lower the voting age from 21 years to 18 years in elections for positions of chief and band councillor on Indian reserves. The idea behind the bill is so straightforward and logical that I am confident the debate will be brief and to the point and that the House will give its consent to sending the bill to the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development for study and report.

I say that the idea behind my bill is straightforward because in Canada today the legal voting age for federal elections and for most provincial elections is 18 years. Three years ago, in June of 1970, we amended the Canada Elections Act and thereby lowered the voting age for federal elections from 21 to 18 years. At that time we recognized that such a reform was long overdue. The young people who were then unable to vote were considered adults for many other purposes, such as marriage, having families, driving cars, even serving in the Canadian armed forces, as well, of course, as paying taxes. They were also subject to the laws of criminal prosecution in