

Oral Questions

ting through that and many other pieces of legislation which the country needs.

Some Hon. Members: Bring it on!

INTRODUCTION OF AMENDING LEGISLATION

Mr. Brian Mulroney (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, if the Prime Minister will undertake to bring that legislation in immediately, I guarantee we will give it quick passage in this House so that western farmers can benefit from the cash to which they are entitled.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mulroney: May I take the Prime Minister's earlier comment as an assurance that, no later than tomorrow, that legislation will be before the House so we can pass it within hours?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, we would have to have the assurance that the Hon. Leader's Party would not be ringing the bells and delaying the Government and the House all the time.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: The difficulty in running Parliament is well known to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. There are many Bills of great importance to all Canadians which have to be moved forward.

Mr. Mazankowski: Don't weasel now.

Mr. Trudeau: I can certainly give an undertaking concerning that particular Bill if the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, speaking for his Party, will give us an equal undertaking on several other Bills which I will give—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: Oh, well, Mr. Speaker! The Leader of the Opposition has just come back from the West and he has discovered that the western farmers have some requirements.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: He is asking for one Bill. Why does he not ask for a Bill to pass the Guaranteed Income Supplement for the elderly? Why does he not ask us to pass the Bill to give rights to the Indians?

Some Hon. Members: Bring them on.

Mr. Trudeau: They are there, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Lalonde: The budget Bill.

● (1420)

Mr. Trudeau: There are budget Bills before the House to give relief to Canadians. His Party has been ringing bells, goofing around, wasting time.

Mr. McDermid: Give it up.

An Hon. Member: You are the goofy one.

Mr. Trudeau: Suddenly he discovers one constituency that needs assistance and he stands up on that.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some Hon. Members: Shame! Shame!

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, they have discovered one constituency—

Some Hon. Members: More! More!

Mr. McDermid: Keep it going.

Mr. Trudeau: They ask me for more, Mr. Speaker. I hope you will recognize that I have a long answer to give. Give me the Order Paper.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: With all due respect to the Right Hon. the Prime Minister, the Chair could call to the attention of Members of the House the Order Paper and the items on it. I wonder if it is essential to read it.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I will heed your admonition and I will not read the five pages of the Order Paper. When they ask for more over there, we agree. Let us have more action from the Opposition and more time seriously spent on legislation, instead of goofing off with ringing bells.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mulroney: Mr. Speaker, no wonder the Liberal Party and all of its putative Members are dead as doornails in western Canada.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mulroney: And that is where they are going to stay.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

Mr. Brian Mulroney (Leader of the Opposition): I asked a question on behalf of western farmers, whose bankruptcies were up 110 per cent last year, and all you get is a jokester hamming around with a piece of paper. We want answers on behalf of western farmers.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mulroney: For 16 years the Prime Minister has been sitting around talking about pieces of legislation that he refers to on the Order Paper. I am asking a specific question on behalf of thousands and thousands of western producers. Will the Government bring that piece of legislation in immediately?