

Business of the House
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SUGGESTED RE-ARRANGEMENT OF SCHEDULE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in view of the statement attributed to the President of the Privy Council that there are only 18 sitting days left to deal with government business and that some legislation may have to be put over, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether he will agree to putting the Criminal Code amendments over until the end of the session, and immediately bringing forward legislation on housing and other urgent matters? Will he, in any event, undertake that the house will not adjourn for a summer recess until the housing and other legislation has been dealt with by the house?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Thank you very much.

An hon. Member: More?

Mr. Trudeau: Why not? Mr. Speaker, I can give neither of those undertakings. On the first point, I do not see how the question would be solved or how the motion would be adopted any more quickly by putting it later in the session. I think we all realize that the Criminal Code omnibus bill has been dealt with sufficiently and that it would be a mistake now to risk postponing its adoption to some other session. On the second point, the government intends to introduce concepts of planning into the use of legislative time, and as much as possible we will stick to our goal of adjourning before the summer is too advanced. I think it is up to the house to take its responsibility; when there is a filibuster such as we are now seeing, I hope that all responsible parties will unite in conceiving some way of allocating time for bills, when that time is obviously being wasted by some members of the house.

Mr. McCleave: What about the Liberal members who spoke yesterday?

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, without being in any way provocative, will the government not accept responsibility for having introduced the Criminal Code legislation in the manner in which it was introduced, and will the government not accept responsibility for getting important legislation before the house before we adjourn for the summer recess?

[Mr. Speaker.]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. If it is the government's intention to stay with the Criminal Code bill until it is finished, will the Prime Minister give the government house leader freedom to discuss with other house leaders which of the other items of legislation we shall deal with after the Criminal Code bill is finished?

Mr. Trudeau: I believe it is up to the government to decide the priority with which it wants to introduce bills which are on the order paper, or which should be dealt with at this session. Of course once this priority has been established by the government, it should be discussed and tested with the opposition to see if we have cause to change that priority.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

NATIONAL DEFENCE

SUGGESTION THAT A.B.M. SYSTEM BE UNDER
 NORAD CONTROL

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Burnaby—I mean, the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas).

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

An hon. Member: I am glad we have that fellow identified.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, I can understand your having difficulty knowing who is the hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour. I understand the Prime Minister had the same difficulty.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): The voters knew the difference.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I direct a question to the Prime Minister. Having in mind the statement made by the deputy commander of NORAD, General F. R. Sharp, to the effect that on a purely military basis the anti-ballistic missile system should be brought under NORAD, will the Prime Minister assure the house that no commitment will be made by the Canadian government to bring the anti-ballistic missile system under NORAD without the matter first being referred to parliament?