

*Continental Bank of Canada*

standing committee, and that the stages of the bill can only be taken on different days without leave, and so on.

The fact of the matter is, in other words, that there is no specific provision that I can see, as I have been scanning through the arguments and research dealing with private bills, which would provide for the regular and orderly dealing with private bills. It is done only by virtue of the fact that all of those regulations which apply to public bills have to apply to private bills as well. Since that sets up the first reading, second reading, and third reading stages of the bill it would seem to me to be unacceptable to argue that it would not apply to the report stage of the bill in the same way.

If by analogy, therefore, private bills proceed from one stage to another because of Standing Order 116 making applicable all of the rules in respect of public bills to private bills, surely that must also apply to the rules as they relate to the report stage unless, of course, there is some provision which indicates that report stage is not at the disposition of the member. I think this is the point. It is not a question as to whether the report stage follows automatically.

What we are dealing with here is whether hon. members ought to enjoy the same privileges under Standing Order 75 relating to report stage amendments with private bills as they do with public bills. It is a question of the right of the member. A member, it would seem to me, has the right as given to him by Standing Order 116 in every way to put down notice to require a report stage, to require 48 hour's notice between the placing of the bill on the order paper and the beginning or report stage, and 24 hours' notice of any amendment to be given. In order to take that right away from members it would seem to me there would have to be very clear authority somewhere for it.

The hon. member alludes to the fact that Standing Order 116 only applies except as herein otherwise provided, and refers to Standing Order 109, which is a notice provision requiring 24 hours' notice of an amendment. The fact is I must take that only as a requirement as to notice and not as to substance. Besides that, it is exactly identical to the 24 hours' notice requirement in respect of a report stage amendment, and therefore it can scarcely be taken as a departure from the Standing Orders as they relate to report stage amendments.

I therefore must conclude that since Standing Order 116 is really the only authority for setting up all of the other stages and prescribing the manner in which to deal with private members' bills, I have to accept that the same Standing Order provides in exactly the same way for the report stage of private bills as it exists in fact for public bills.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Six o'clock.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge (Mr. Saltsman) has given the Chair notice of his intention to raise a point of order in respect of another matter. Am I correct in that? Perhaps we should clarify this. In addition to the several motions for amendments, I should say to be correct on this, that the hon. member puts forward, he also wishes to raise a general point of order about the procedural regularity of the bill.

[Mr. Speaker.]

The hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River (Mr. Reid) has also indicated he has a procedural argument to make.

It is now close to three minutes to six o'clock. It is obvious there is going to be much more said about the procedure in respect of this bill. Frankly I would be reluctant now to open up a new point, allowing three or four minutes on it, and attempting to pick up the thread a week or two weeks from now, as the case may be. I therefore must ask the indulgence of hon. members in calling it six o'clock.

**Mr. Blais:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I know it is approaching six o'clock but it is my information that the House leader wanted to seek the consent of—

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** I think this is being done behind the curtains; is that not right?

**Mr. Paproski:** Yes, I think it is being negotiated right now. We should be hearing during the dinner hour whether there has been a decision to bring in a verdict.

**Mr. Blais:** I understand there are negotiations proceeding now; therefore we can call it six o'clock.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. It being six o'clock, I do now leave the Chair until eight o'clock this evening.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

---

#### AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The President of the Privy Council (Mr. Sharp) on a point of order.

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, there have been some discussions among representatives of the parties and I ask whether there would be leave to return to statements by ministers so that my colleague, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Macdonald), could make a statement.

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, discussions have taken place and we are agreeable.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Agreed.

---

#### ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

#### THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM—STATEMENT ON PROPOSED EXPORT LEVY

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Paproski:** Are you really going to resign?