

THE SENATE

Tuesday, December 13, 1988

The Senate met at 10 a.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY—TERMINATION OF DEBATE NO LATER THAN EIGHTH SITTING DAY

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(i), I move:

That the proceedings on the Order of the Day for resuming the debate on the motion for an Address in reply to Her Excellency the Governor General's Speech from the Throne addressed to both Houses of Parliament be concluded on the eighth sitting day on which the order is debated.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is leave granted, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, because of the unusual nature of the Speech from the Throne, dealing as it does with just one subject, should we not have the motion read "... be concluded no later than the eighth sitting day ..." instead of "... on the eighth sitting day ..."? Surely, we can conclude the debate before the eighth sitting day. It is quite a different matter with a full-fledged Speech from the Throne where there are so many subjects dealt with, but in this case I think we should modify it to say "... no later than the eighth sitting day ..."

Senator Doody: Honourable senators, I have no problem with that, but it really does not matter if this sits on the order paper for eight days and disappears or whether the terminology is changed now to make sure that the debate does not go beyond eight sitting days. It is a matter of small concern to me if senators wish to make that adjustment.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is it the wish of honourable senators that I modify the wording?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

The Hon. the Speaker: The motion will now read:

... be concluded no later than the eighth sitting day on which the order is debated.

Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Motion, as modified, agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government), with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(g), moved:

That when the Senate adjourns today, it do stand adjourned until Tuesday next, 20th December, 1988, at eight o'clock in the evening.

Motion agreed to.

QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE CABINET

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND REPRESENTATION

Hon. M. Lorne Bonnell: Honourable senators, I have a question for the Leader of the Government in the Senate. Since the province of Prince Edward Island has gone Liberal red, since that province is not likely to be represented by any cabinet minister—

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Bonnell for cabinet!

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Senator Bonnell:—and keeping in mind that all provinces should be represented in cabinet, I should like to suggest to the Leader of the Government that he suggest to the Prime Minister that there are three excellent senators on the government side who represent Prince Edward Island, any one of whom could represent that province well in the cabinet.

We have, for example, Senator Phillips, who is the Government Whip.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Senator Steuart: This is known as the kiss of death!

Senator Bonnell: Senator Phillips was a member of Parliament for Prince County, the riding in which the fixed link was supposed to have been built—and I might mention that those who advocated that fixed link have all faded into oblivion—and I know that he would represent the government well. He has answered questions in this chamber in the absence of the Leader of the Government and the Deputy Leader of the Government, and he could bring forth many good responses on behalf of Prince Edward Island.

We also have Senator Macquarrie,—