

few questions, that I could not be in a position to be very specific at that time, unfortunately. I should be in a position to be more specific a bit later. I am waiting for some information. It is not clear if Bill C-21 will be called on Monday or on Tuesday. That is one of the items I hope to receive information on rather soon.

In so far as the special order to which the Hon. Member referred a moment ago dealing with supplementary borrowing authority up to \$4 billion, indeed notice has been given to introduce this Bill. Of course, if the Bill were to be introduced, I can, in the name of the Government, put on the record—as I indicated to my colleagues earlier today—that whatever amount of money would be borrowed out of that \$4 billion would be deducted at the committee stage from the amount specified in Bill C-21. This is now on the record. This is a commitment of the Government.

I want it to be clear that if we introduce and proceed with the Bill for the supplementary borrowing authority as provided for by the special order, this will be done because in the short term it is necessary and urgent to get some money for April to be able to spend, and to be authorized to borrow. Such an amount of money, up to \$4 billion, once again, would be deducted by amendment to Bill C-21 before it is completely disposed of.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Dealing first with the House business once again, I can understand the difficulty in determining whether it is going to be Bill C-21 on Monday or Tuesday. We can expect that uncertainty to be clarified when the Minister has the information which he says is about to come to him. However, what do we do on Wednesday and on next Thursday, if he can take us that far?

With respect now to the notice concerning the supplementary borrowing authority of \$4 billion, we are now debating in Bill C-21 a measure which would authorize the Government to borrow \$29.5 billion. Regardless of the Minister's reassurances, we know that there are \$8.1 billion of cash deposits available to the Government now. It seems to us to be totally unreasonable to be introducing borrowing authority for a further \$4 billion in addition to the \$29.5 billion when the Government has this kind of cash deposit at its disposal to meet its April commitments.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Pinard:** First of all, I have no intention of arguing the point Mr. Speaker, but I think that he should double-check his information. Also, the Hon. Member should be aware that April is the month when the Government needs cash because of greater expenditures. He should know, therefore, that reserves are artificial and if Bill C-21 is not referred to the committee until next week it is as a result of the stalling tactics of the Official Opposition, period. At 6.15 p.m. last night, we were ready for the vote. Hon. Members were in the House, but for no reason at all, the Official Opposition decided to delay the taking of the vote until this morning and demanded as a prerequisite that Bill C-21 be not referred today to a commit-

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tee, delaying again by a few days the consideration by a Standing Committee of this important piece of legislation. The Hon. Member should know that basic to our Parliamentary system is the Government's ability to levy taxes, as well as borrow and spend money.

For the first time since I was appointed Government House Leader several years ago, we have had the good fortune of having the budget tabled in the House almost on the eve of the presentation of an act to provide the Government with a borrowing authority to meet its requirements up to \$29.5 billion.

The Hon. Member is well aware of all that. So, when he claims that because it has some \$8 billion in cash deposits, the Government should not avail itself of previously adopted regulations and ordinances of the House, he is mistaken, and if he really wants to demonstrate his good faith and desire to let the Government operate normally, he should end this filibuster and allow the House to pass Bill C-21 as soon as possible. I repeat that we are ready to negotiate in good faith, and that Members on the opposite side should do likewise. If we fail to come to an understanding, the Government will have to assume its responsibilities. If we have to introduce other bills, therefore, we shall do so in a manner consistent with our Standing Orders and Parliamentary practice.

[*English*]

**Mr. Nielsen:** Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief and will not respond in a partisan way whatsoever. Will the Minister answer the simple question: Is it the intention of the Government today to move for leave to introduce that supplementary borrowing Bill?

**Mr. Pinard:** Mr. Speaker, I think the answer is obvious, but I suppose the Hon. Member will have to wait and see when we reach Introduction of Bills. Certainly, we want to introduce that bill as early as possible. It is an urgent plea.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Yukon; then the Hon. Member for Nanaimo-Alberni.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Then under those circumstances and in order that we can despatch the business of the House in an orderly fashion, and for the reasons I stated in my preamble, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald):

That the House do now proceed to Orders of the Day.

If there is any doubt at all, Sir, about the acceptability or propriety of that motion, I would like to speak to it.

**Mr. Pinard:** That is moved on a point of order and so it is out of order.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Axworthy moves motions on points of orders.

**Mr. Speaker:** Moved by the Hon. Member for Yukon, seconded by—