Electoral Boundaries

through you, Mr. Speaker, to look at the "blues" a little later and see whether or not that remark was justified in the circumstances. I do not think it is a proper thing for him to do, and I would certainly not do that to him.

Mr. Speaker: With due respect, this is one of the difficulties when procedural arguments get to the substance of the matter. I think an examination of the "blues" or of Hansard tomorrow might indicate that with respect to what has happened on both sides of the House this afternoon—and it is an indication of what might happen when we get into discussions which are intended to be procedural—it would be better if we stuck to procedural grounds and stayed away from substance.

[Translation]

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Tenth report of Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, in both official languages—Mr. Langlois.

[Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes

and Proceedings.]

ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM

TABLING OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND QUEBEC

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I am tabling a copy of an agreement between the government of Canada and the government of Quebec on the Anti-Inflation Program.

[English]

ANTI-INFLATION ACT

MEASURE TO ADD NEW DEFINITIONS

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-89, to amend the Anti-Inflation Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

(1530)

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

OBJECTIONS TO COMMISSIONS' REPORTS RESPECTING NOVA SCOTIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, AND ALBERTA

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council) moved:

[Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton).]

That at 8:00 p.m. this day the House shall take up consideration of objections to the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Nova Scotia;

That, after completion of consideration of the said report, the House shall take up consideration of objections to the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the British Columbia, but, if consideration of the report for Nova Scotia has not been completed at 8:40 p.m., the said consideration shall be adjourned and the House shall proceed forthwith to consideration of the report for British Columbia; and

That, after completion of consideration of the said report for British Columbia, the House shall take up consideration of objections to the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for Alberta, but, if consideration of the report for British Columbia has not been completed at 9:20 p.m., the said consideration shall be adjourned and the House shall proceed forthwith to consideration of the report for Alberta—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would remind the House that subject to discussion and agreement, the President of the Privy Council earlier indicated his intention to move a motion at this time. The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it understood and agreed that the terms of the motion put forward by the President of the Privy Council are agreed to?

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, before this motion is passed I should like to know if time will be left for orderly discussion. It is all right to introduce a motion, but I think normally they should be introduced one at a time. However, I should like to know whether, because of the difficulty we are getting into with an extended session, we are going to have time before something has to happen—and, Mr. Speaker, we have to have some additional time rather than just the introduction to each redistribution debate to which we are agreeing.

Mr. Sharp: I have had some discussions with the respresentatives of the various parties on this very point, and in the explanation I gave preliminary to reading the terms of the motion I indicated that the intention would be to set the process in train tonight on three of the objections which must be dealt with before April 3. As I said, it would be my intention at that time to seek the agreement of the House or on my own motion to set aside some time after March 28, by which time all the objections must have been filed, to discuss not only those which will be introduced tonight but also others which are already with the Chair or which may be filed before March 28. We do not consider that the discussion tonight does anything more than set the process in train.

Mr. Peters: I should like to ask an additional question. We have gone through this once or twice before. In terms of the discussions, will an attempt be made to keep the objections in a series, rather than introducing them all in a group? We may have someone talking about Quebec and someone else talking about the Northwest Territories. Is it the intention to keep them in some kind of order so that there will be a termination of the debate on one set of objections before another one is commenced?

Mr. Sharp: If I may speak again, I will put before the House leaders some proposals along these lines. Of course, it will be necessary to reach agreement. I hope we can reach agreement on some allocation of time so that the objections can be dealt with in a series in the most effective way.