

when we discussed the matter. He is aware of the situation and is willing to abide by it.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY—TERMINATION OF DEBATE ON 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.

Motion agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

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

That when the Senate adjourns today, it do stand adjourned until Tuesday next, 7th October 1986, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

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

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

SHIPBUILDING

BRITISH COLUMBIA—ALLOCATION OF CONTRACTS—GOVERNMENT POLICY

Hon. Raymond J. Perrault: Honourable senators, I take great pleasure in reporting that when the Senate assembles next week 20 million visitors will have come to British Columbia for Expo '86. This figure represents the largest attendance at any time in the world's history at a world's fair of this type, because Expo '86 is, of course, a "theme" fair.

● (1430)

On behalf of British Columbians, I want to thank my colleagues in the other provinces and the people of those other provinces for the superb support which they have accorded to

Expo '86. Not only did we recruit employees from all of the other provinces to work at the fair but we have enjoyed unprecedented collaboration from all of the other provinces and the territories. There are splendid exhibits from almost all of the provinces and territories, including the Atlantic provinces, Quebec and Ontario. We had the support of the previous federal government for the fair, and we have enjoyed the continuing support of the new federal government. On behalf of British Columbians, I want to say thank you for helping us make Expo '86 the success that it has been. To my colleagues, I say that if you have not yet been to the fair, please come soon, because it will not be open for very much longer.

I will now come to my question!

Senator Flynn: You had leave, I presume!

Senator Perrault: Yes, I had leave! A former leader has reminded me of my responsibility in that regard.

It is, I think, the view of most Canadians that a viable shipbuilding industry is of great importance to this nation, whether that industry be located in the Atlantic provinces, along the St. Lawrence, at other points in eastern Canada or along the west coast. I can report that unemployment on the west coast is distressingly high. The unemployment in our shipbuilding industry is very high, indeed, and there are other job losses threatened.

I wonder whether the Leader of the Government can provide us with assurances that west coast shipbuilding yards will be given an opportunity to participate actively in the icebreaker program and other shipbuilding programs of this government.

Frankly, honourable senators, we have yet to see one major project of any significance implemented on the west coast since this new government took power, and we are waiting for those campaign promises to be fulfilled.

Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government and Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations): Honourable senators, the west coast shipyards are not alone in facing serious difficulties. The entire shipbuilding industry in Canada—and, indeed, in the world—is in serious difficulty. In Canada that industry is existing almost solely on the basis of government contracts and is, by general consent, I think, in serious need of rationalization.

With regard to the icebreaker program, I can tell the honourable senator that the government is now considering various options with respect to design and construction, and that the west coast yards figure very prominently in those options.

With regard to the preamble of the honourable senator, I draw to his attention and to the attention of the house that the Speech from the Throne read by Her Excellency yesterday afternoon noted that Expo '86 had been a focus of international attention that had brought pride and joy to millions of Canadians, and that the success of British Columbia's world exposition strikingly demonstrates the creative skills of our people. That is one paragraph in the Speech from the Throne among, I hope, many that will enjoy unanimous approval in Parliament and in the country. To that I would simply add—I