

Proposal for Time Allocation
BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MOTION FOR TIME ALLOCATION RESPECTING
DEFENCE ACT AMENDMENT

control or any sort of authority over the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, which is becoming altogether too bureaucratic an organization.

There is a lot of talk about democracy, but when some extremists attempt to put it into practice, democracy itself is destroyed. There are some flagrant cases, and this is where I understand the attitude of the hon. member for York-Humber. For example, the C.B.C. could be asked how a certain René Lévesque, a member of the provincial legislature today and a former minister, came to take a trip to Paris at the expense of the C.B.C. to interview Prime Minister Pompidou, when there are C.B.C. correspondents in Montreal.

Who is paying for that, if not the taxpayers? The Paris correspondent is then sent to interview a French publisher in Montreal. Abuses of this kind justify motions like the one we have before us today, Mr. Speaker.

I can very well understand why the hon. member for York-Humber complains that the C.B.C. is always showing presumptuousness and even contempt, as regards the parliamentary institution.

Mr. Speaker, if I were to go to my constituency of Lotbinière and tell the people there: "We are going to take the \$123 million allotted to the C.B.C. and we are going to use them for family allowances—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): Order.

Mr. Choquette: —the electors of the Lotbinière constituency would vote as one man in favour of family allowances and against the C.B.C.

I am aware, Mr. Speaker, that my time is up. I deeply regret it.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): Order. I thank the hon. member for Lotbinière for abiding by the clock and I also thank him for his co-operation with the Chair.

The hour for consideration of private members' business being over, the house resumes the debate interrupted at six o'clock.

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): Pursuant to the order of the house of April 6, this sitting is suspended until eight o'clock.

SITTING SUSPENDED

SITTING RESUMED

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. McIlraith:

That an order be made allocating the time on the committee of the whole stage and all remaining stages of procedure on Bill C-243, An Act to amend the National Defence Act and other acts in consequence thereof (as amended), being government order No. 107 on the order paper and that the motion will provide that two days shall be allocated for the completion of discussion on the committee of the whole stage on Bill C-243, An Act to amend the National Defence Act and other acts in consequence thereof (as amended), and that one day shall be allotted for the completion of the third reading stage on the bill.

Mr. Churchill: You and I, Mr. Speaker, and a few hon. members will maintain a quorum in the house while the hockey match is in progress, and I will continue what I was saying before six o'clock.

I outlined then the proposition which I put forward to the leader of the house in order to speed up the business before us. In the presence of the Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) I asked the leader of the New Democratic party for his support with regard to that proposition. So the Prime Minister, the leader of the New Democratic party, the minister of defence, the house leader and all members of the house who were present are now aware of the proposal that I put forward starting last Friday, repeated on Monday and repeated again today—a proposal designed to speed up and advance the pressing business which needs to be done by parliament. I quite agree that we should use our time in this house effectively and usefully. I regret very much that the leader of the New Democratic party failed to support the proposal that I put forward because with his support, and the support of his party, I am sure the government would have been persuaded to change its mind and postpone clauses 2 and 6 of the bill until next fall.

By that time the government would have the regulations ready and would be in a position to proclaim the bill immediately after its passage through this house. But the leader of the New Democratic party, who has not participated in the debates on the unification bill so far and who, like the Prime Minister, has rarely been present here during our discussions recently, failed to go along with my suggestion.

What I find strange about the New Democratic party as represented by their leader is that outside this chamber across the