

Business of the House

facie case of privilege on which we might spend the rest of the day.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**MANPOWER****TABLING OF JOB VACANCY SURVEY REPORT**

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table under Standing Order 41(2), the Job Vacancy Survey Report, in both official languages.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**LENGTH OF ADJOURNMENT FOR CHRISTMAS**

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am really rising on a point of order to indicate to the House that, instead of dealing with either of the motions which have been put on the order paper in my name, I should like to seek consent to make another and a simpler motion. I will read the motion and then I would explain the purpose of it and ask for consent to move it. If consent were given, we could then deal with it. It reads:

That following Royal Assent this day the House shall stand adjourned until Tuesday, December 28, 1971 at two o'clock.

At the moment we are somewhat uncertain as to when it will be possible to complete the remaining item or items of business before the House, so it would be inappropriate for the House at this time to decide the questions contained in the major adjournment motion which is on the order paper. So to avoid premature discussion on that point I will put this simpler motion which would have the effect of adjourning the House today following Royal Assent and bringing us back on Tuesday next.

I have felt a certain amount of anguish in deciding whether to ask the House to come back on Monday or on Tuesday. In view of the transportation difficulties which members from distant points would encounter in returning to the House by two o'clock on Monday, I decided we would probably all be better off if we came back here on Tuesday at two o'clock, and for this reason I make that change. So, if I am given consent, I would move that following Royal Assent this day the House should stand adjourned until two o'clock on Tuesday, December 28, 1971.

Mr. Speaker: Has the minister leave of the House to present this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: There is unanimous consent. I will put the motion which is as follows: The President of the Privy

[Mr. Speaker.]

Council (Mr. MacEachen), seconded by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Lang), moves:

That, following the Royal Assent this day, the House shall adjourn and stand adjourned until Tuesday, December 28, 1971, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I will not have much to say. I start off by pointing out to the minister that the anguish to which he was exposed is nothing like the anguish of the Members of Parliament who have to go long distances home to celebrate Christmas with their families and constituents and then come back here on Monday. His anguish is not now quite as sharp, but it is still very poignant.

With respect to the minister's motion we have, of course, given our consent, but I think it should be made plain that there is an understanding among all parties that when we have completed the study of Bill C-275, which will mean the completion of all the business which the government House Leader indicated the government expected to be completed—with the exception of Bill C-176 which we will discuss later, today—we will then recess until Tuesday. There will be no further discussion in this House today on Bill C-176. I think that is the understanding, and I put it on the record.

Our position on that has been made quite plain in this House and outside this House. The hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) said quite plainly that the arrangements we have reached, or thought we had reached, which would involve acceptance of an amendment which the government has indicated to us it would like to put forward, plus a further amendment which, in our view, is one which carries forward the statement made by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) a year last summer, excluding cattle and cattle products, would put Bill C-176 in a form in which we could accept it.

From our point of view, with that being done, Mr. Speaker, it is our belief that the passage of Bill C-176 would not be overly delayed. There would be some debate, I assume, but not a very lengthy debate. I say this because it may give hon. members some indication of what our position is in the event that we come back next week and have to debate this measure. Our position is clear. We maintain it. We hope the other protagonists in this issue will see the light of reason as we have seen it.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): As must be obvious, Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions within the last couple of hours which have resulted in the request of the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) for permission to offer the motion now before the House instead of either of those on the order paper. May I say that we are glad that the debate does not have to take place today on the motion for a recess of seven or eight weeks. We have views about that, in light of the number of times we are told that there is not time in the parliamentary schedule for things that ought to be done, but we can express those views if and when that motion is called next week.

In other words, what we have before us now is simply a motion that would provide that when today's work is done we stand adjourned until two o'clock on Tuesday. I should like to confirm the understanding already indicated by the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin), namely,