Private Members' Public Bills

PORT OF HALIFAX OPERATIONS ACT

MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR RESUMPTION OF LONGSHORING

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-14, to provide for the resumption and continuation of longshoring and related operations at the port of Halifax.

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

Mr. Speaker: When shall the bill be read a second time?

Some hon. Members: Later this day.

Mr. Speaker: By unanimous consent, later this day.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, we agree to the bill being called for second reading later this day. We shall probably agree to all the requests made by the Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro), but we would like to do that as we go along. In view of the thickness of the document which the minister tabled a moment ago, I suggest that it might be desirable that we let the House rise for lunch at 12:30 or some such time, so that members on the opposition side can study the document and consider the speech the minister will have made.

Mr. Blais: That is agreeable to the government, Mr. Speaker.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

PROCEDURE RESPECTING INTRODUCTION OF PUBLIC BILLS ON ORDER PAPER

Mr. Speaker: Under introduction of bills, the House has come to the moment where some 154 private members' bills have been drawn in keeping with past practice. I suggest to the House, if it is agreeable, and following past practice, that the House be deemed to have taken through introduction and first reading stage all private members' bills, taking all of them as having been introduced in the normal course. They were drawn in accordance with past practice. The list of bills introduced at this time will be printed in *Hansard* as if they had been processed in the normal way. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, basically there is no disagreement with what you say. However, it might be wise for us to ask ourselves whether all the bills that have been presented are within the power of private members to advance. I am certainly not rising to put Your Honour through the torture of having to go through the list of 154 bills; I emphasize that to you, Mr. Speaker. I am sure there must be some reason for parliamentary counsel to at least look at them, if he has not done so already. I wonder if it would be considered appropriate to put this item over until at least [Mr. Kaplan.]

Monday, so that the officers at the table, and others, can look at them to ensure we do not have any problems down the road.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member raises a very valid point of order. It is customary for the Chair to enter a caveat as to the procedural regularity or competence of bills. Therefore, the introduction of the bills in this manner is without prejudice to any arguments that may subsequently arise as to the procedural regularity when they are taken one at a time. Is that agreed and understood?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

FIRST READINGS

Bill C-201, An Act to amend the Department of Justice Act (annual report).—Mr. Fortin.

Bill C-202, An Act to amend the British North America Act, 1867 (abolition of the Senate).—Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre).

Bill C-203, An Act respecting the inter-provincial enforcement of alimony and maintenance orders.—Mr. Huntington.

Bill C-204, An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act (permanent voters list).—Mr. Reynolds.

Bill C-205, An Act respecting the parliamentary ratification of the export abroad of nuclear fuels, equipment and technology.—Mr. Gillies.

Bill C-206, An Act to amend the Bank of Canada Act.—Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse).

Bill C-207, An Act to amend the Railway Act.—Mr. Martin.

Bill C-208, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (humane traps).—Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich).

Bill C-209, An Act respecting noise in factories.—Mr. Robinson.

Bill C-210, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (obscene literature).—Mr. Whiteway.

Bill C-211, An Act respecting Sir John A. Macdonald Day.—Mr. Macquarrie.

Bill C-212, An Act to amend the Criminal Records Act.—Mr. Rynard.

Bill C-213, An Act to amend the Statistics Act.—Miss MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands).

Bill C-214, An Act to register lobbyists.—Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton).

Bill C-215, An Act to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act (party status).—Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue).