

I think the proper approach to this is to say simply this. It applies to both sides of the House and it applies at all times. This is a place of free speech. It is a very vigorous place; it is not a tea party, and I have said that before. It is an adversarial forum. That is what preserves our freedoms.

However, in the process we must be conscious of not only the feelings of each other but the implications that go with remarks we make outside this Chamber as well. I know that all hon. members would want most of the time, except when they sometimes become forgetful, to maintain that.

I think that is the only response that I can give the hon. member for Halifax. I regret the matter. But there is no way I can review it from an evidentiary point of view.

I do ask all hon. members to conduct themselves in such a way that complaints like this do not have to be brought to the Speaker.

I thank the hon. member for raising the matter.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise on a point of order and ask the usual business question.

In particular, I would ask the government to indicate to us what business it intends to call for tomorrow.

Second, is the government prepared now to give its answer to the question asked by my colleague from Ottawa—Vanier as to whether or not Parliament will be sitting next week pursuant to the suggestion of the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier. If so, will we be considering the budget next week in the manner in which the member for Ottawa—Vanier suggested?

In the unlikely event that we are not sitting next week, perhaps the minister could indicate what business he intends to bring forward when Parliament does resume after the one week recess.

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, first, I would like to

Speaker's Ruling

advise the House tomorrow at 10 a.m. we will commence debate on Bill C-56, the Small Business Loans Act. That is the only piece of government business we have for tomorrow.

After Routine Proceedings I have suggested to the opposition parties that we will be raising a point of order on the Message from the Senate with respect to Bill C-21.

On Monday, March 5, Tuesday, March 6, Wednesday, March 7 and Thursday, March 8, the week of March when we return, we will be debating the budget motion.

I did attempt to reach my colleague, the House leader for the opposition, who suggested that the Liberal party would be prepared to work next week rather than to adjourn, but he was on his way to the airport and/or in Paris and then on to Greece.

Mr. Boudria: He's not going to Greece.

Mr. Lewis: I did not get into long distance calls to try to reach him to see if he wanted to come back to work. In case my hon. friend is talking to him by long distance telephone, or perhaps communicating with him by telegraph or fax to a foreign country, he might tell him that we will take next week off as agreed because we want to go back to meet our constituents.

Members of the government party will be in our ridings meeting with our constituents. We will also try to cover Ottawa—Vanier in the hon. member's absence.

Mr. Boudria: Mr. Speaker, just so that the House and indeed all Canadians are aware, the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier is out of the country until Monday night. He is out of the country on government business replacing the Deputy Speaker of this House. He will be back on Monday night.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, the House will know that the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier probably has an attendance record here which is unmatched by anyone, including the minister who just made those unnecessary remarks.

Mr. Speaker: My attendance record is pretty good.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh!