

*Government Orders*

reading stage of Bill C-88, an act to provide for the membership of Canada in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. parliamentary secretary has asked that the House consent to proceeding with Bill C-88, an act to provide for the membership of Canada in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. What the hon. member is asking is that it be now read a third time and do pass. That requires consent.

The hon. member for Shefford on a point of order.

• (1800)

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Lapierre:** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I want to point out that it is already passed 6 o'clock p.m. and that they will not find the required consent, because they did not have the courtesy of advising us of the motions they had to pass today.

[*English*]

**Mr. Hawkes:** Mr. Speaker, I think the motion was made under Standing Order 26. It is always admissible. If 15 members do not rise, then it is acceptable.

**Some hon. members:** No.

**An hon. member:** That's right.

**Mr. Hawkes:** That was Standing Order 26 that the member was using.

**Mr. Speaker:** I recognize that, but we are after the hour.

Let me make it very clear what is being sought here. The government wishes to proceed with a bill to third reading. Because we are after 6:00 o'clock p.m., that will require consent. Is the House prepared to proceed?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. members:** No.

**Mr. Axworthy:** Mr. Speaker, I have a very brief point of order. As the Speaker and hon. members of the House would recognize, we could move an amendment where we would try to clarify specifically that the House would be called back if there was the imminent conflict—

**Mr. Speaker:** I must say to the hon. member that that may be a very interesting thing to say outside the House, but it is not a point of order.

**Mr. Cooper:** Mr. Speaker, when I rose on the motion, the business before the House, before we stopped at 5:00 o'clock p.m., was Bill C-88. I had the floor. You, Sir, had not risen to call it 6:00 o'clock p.m. to adjourn the House.

I would therefore argue that the House was still sitting. I had put the motion prior to you having called it 6:00 o'clock p.m.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Speaker, I do think that the point is a moot point. It is not a weak one.

Standing Order 26 says the member must have the floor. As far as I know, the Clerk had not read the order that was to be discussed after the votes had been called for. The Clerk had just sat down.

Nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, this party is willing to give the government Bill C-88 today. We will agree to extend the hours, but not all night.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. parliamentary secretary has made a representation which I think in view of the response from the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier, I do not need to go into.

What is being asked now basically is, will the House proceed with this bill.

Just so that all hon. members know exactly what is being asked, and so that the public will know what is being asked here, the government wishes to proceed and Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition has agreed to proceed and we will take the consent of the House that Bill C-88, an act to provide for the membership of Canada in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, be now read a third and do pass.

**Some hon. members:** No.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Shefford is clearly indicating that he is not in agreement.

**Mr. Andre:** Mr. Speaker, what happened by way of House order was that during discussion of Bill C-88, the House stopped the proceedings to have a vote on the motion for adjournment and so on.

**Some hon. members:** Order.

**Mr. Andre:** Prior to that, my parliamentary secretary was speaking on debate. He rose prior to the adjournment and put a motion under Standing Order 26, extension of hours, which the Leader of the Opposition agreed would be appropriate.