

Business of the House

Parliament. The order of the Bills which I shall outline is important. The number of Bills which I will outline flows from the discussions we had.

Tomorrow we will be dealing with the following Bills in this order: C-4, C-23, C-5 and C-31. On Tuesday we will deal with Bill C-24. On Wednesday we will deal with Bills C-11, C-16, C-8, C-7 and C-14. I designate next Thursday as an Opposition Day. Next Friday Bill C-33 will be dealt with.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the information which we have just received. There have been statements from all three Parties with regard to the need to obtain quick passage of Bill C-34 dealing with the Canada Labour Code. Would he be amenable to the suggestion that we agree to one speaker per Party at second reading? The Bill could then go to committee for careful but speedy consideration, with an understanding that that particular piece of legislation would in fact become law prior to the House rising at the end of June, and that he take whatever steps he deems necessary to then place that Bill on a priority listing to ensure that it will in fact be dealt with?

● (1510)

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, this is obviously a matter to be negotiated in a regular House Leaders' meeting. The Hon. Member knows from my answer on the floor of the House yesterday that certainly the Government is willing to consider any serious offer or proposal made by the Opposition Parties in order to dispose of Bill C-34 quickly. The idea of having one speaker per Party to send it to committee is acceptable to the Government, except that we would like to have more precision from the Opposition Parties about how we will be dealing with the report stage and third reading stage.

I cannot give a commitment about passing the whole Bill before the end of June unless I have a firm agreement on a very short debate for the report stage and third reading. The Hon. Member has not been very specific about that.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. House Leader does in fact raise a legitimate point. I want to suggest to him that if we could get agreement to have this Bill dealt with speedily at second reading and dealt with speedily at committee stage, I would be prepared to enter into negotiations on a House order to deal with the Bill at report and third reading stage that I think would satisfy the need to have the Bill dealt with expeditiously.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, as I said, usually we negotiate or make deals in a regular House Leaders' meeting. The Hon. Member will understand that no deal is possible without the participation of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, I simply want to stand at this time to support the point of view of the Government House Leader that normally if negotiations are being carried on with respect to House business, these matters will be discussed in the course of our deliberations, which prove to be successful from time to time. It is a well known fact that the NDP

supports the Liberal Party on almost all of their legislation. It is not necessary for the Members for Hamilton Mountain to stand up and reaffirm this publicly.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I just want to say to the Government House Leader that my recollection of what was said by the absent Leader of the Conservative Party was that he was in support of the principles contained within the amendments proposed to the Canada Labour Code.

With regard to negotiations, I am not attempting to negotiate; I am doing what I recall was done by the House Leader for the Conservatives in the case of the grain stabilization Bill. I am making an offer that I think perhaps cannot be refused.

Mr. McKinnon: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. The Government House Leader will recall that there was a promise in the Throne Speech that the guaranteed income supplement for single old age pensioners would be increased by \$25 a month. It is all very well to list 11 Bills on which he places a priority. I understand that this will require a Bill to amend the Pension Act. Where does he put this measure in his priorities?

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I think we are prepared to go even further. We are thinking in terms of increasing the GIS by \$50 a month. We intend to introduce such legislation before the end of June for sure.

Mr. Wise: Mr. Speaker, I want to make an inquiry of the Government House Leader. I had hoped to be able to raise this question in the presence of the Minister of Agriculture but unfortunately he had to leave. It is with reference to Bill C-23, the advance payments for prairie grains.

He will recognize that that applies only to the grains produced within the jurisdiction of the Canadian Wheat Board. Perhaps he will recall that in 1976, I believe, some comparable legislation was approved for the advance payment for crops produced outside the Canadian Wheat Board, primarily corn and beans.

Obviously we are in full support of Bill C-23. We are somewhat concerned that the twin Bill which should apply to grains outside the Canadian Wheat Board should go through the House in tandem with that Bill. Otherwise there will be a situation where there will be a greater advance payment available for producers of similar grains in one part of the country, yet there will be the old standard of advanced payments for the producers of other crops, particularly in Ontario, the Province of Quebec and Atlantic Canada.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for his comments. I will make sure that the Minister of Agriculture will be made aware of them. We will take them very seriously. If there is anything to be adapted or corrected, we will do it with pleasure. For the time being, we have had a House Leaders' meeting and agreed to dispose of Bill C-23 very quickly next week. I want to assure the Hon. Member that his concerns will be brought to the attention of the Minister of Agriculture.