

two of my colleagues may want to say a few more things on the bill.

I think if it is understood that the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) is to have one hour, whenever it starts, everybody would be much happier about this motion.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I wish to further clarify one element which has been referred to. With regard to the declaration, if it occurs when parliament is not sitting the understanding would be that the order would be set down as soon as parliament reconvened. There would be no obligation to disrupt the recess or prorogation period for the purpose of bringing parliament back at an earlier time.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, there is some misunderstanding here. It is our understanding that if there is a national emergency—I do not want to debate this because now is not the time to do so—that emergency would warrant the recalling of parliament. We agree that if in the course of an election campaign a national emergency is declared, obviously the matter would be left to the mandate of the people: the people would make the decision. On the question of the recall of parliament, perhaps the minister and I can work out something to do with the timing of that recall. We are not prepared to let the matter go on the basis that parliament will only come back two or three months after the national emergency has been declared. We do not think that is right.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I was speaking from the draft supplied to me by the hon. gentleman, which is in the terms I suggested. If the hon. member has any different understanding of it, I will have to speak to him about it.

Mr. Bell: Mr. Speaker, we have run into a difficulty. I do not know whether it is possible for the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) and the minister to confer quickly. Perhaps we could hold in abeyance final approval of the motion because the question raised is crucial to our position on the matter.

Mr. Speaker: Obviously, as there is a desire on the part of some hon. members, including the hon. member for Peace River, to consider the motion further and to have further discussions, perhaps the motion should not be put immediately.

Perhaps we could return to the consideration of motion No. 40, Bill C-203, which I believe was about to be called a moment ago, on the understanding that as soon as we have completed consideration of the motions on this bill the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) will bring forward his private members' business.

The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) asked that the 4.15 p.m. order not be applied strictly and that we give one hour to the hon. member for Athabasca. It should be remembered, however, that there is to be royal assent some time later this afternoon, so that the hon. member for Athabasca may not have an hour.

Mr. Yewchuk: Mr. Speaker, I would not be agreeable to delaying beyond 4.15 p.m. consideration of private mem-

Motions

bers' business. I think we should proceed with private member's hour at that time, as agreed upon.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

ELECTION EXPENSES

PROVISION OF PAYMENTS TO CANDIDATES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF PARTIES FOR CERTAIN BROADCASTING TIME

The House resumed consideration of Bill C-203, to amend the Canada Elections Act, the Broadcasting Act and the Income Tax Act in respect of election expenses, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. Speaker: The next motion is No. 40 standing in the name of the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney).

Mr. Harney: Mr. Speaker, I rise in order to withdraw motion No. 40, standing in my name.

Motion No. 40 (Mr. Harney) withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: Next comes motion No. 41.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Speaker, I should like consent to withdraw this motion.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion No. 41 (Mr. Barnett) withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: We shall now proceed to consideration of motion No. 42 standing in the name of the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett).

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni) moved:

That Bill C-203, an act to amend the Canada Elections Act, the Broadcasting Act and the Income Tax Act in respect of election expenses, be amended by deleting, in paragraph (b) of section 99.4 of clause 14 the words "between the hours of six a.m. and nine a.m., 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m." and substituting the words:

"between the hours of six a.m. and eight p.m."

He said: Mr. Speaker, I will be brief. The reasoning behind this amendment and the point I wish to make is this: I believe the committee succumbed to what I would describe as an urban orientation with regard to prime radio time. I have brought forward this amendment to stress that in some areas of the country some of the hours which are not included in the bill as it stands may be more desirable. That is my only point. Unless other members wish to debate it, I will not pursue it further on this occasion. I felt the point should be made at this time in the House.

Mr. Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?