

Allotted Days

[Translation]

Madam Speaker: Shall the notices of motions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS— MOTIONS

[English]

Madam Speaker: Shall all items listed under Private Members' Notices of Motions preceding item No. 74 be allowed to stand by unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

* * *

ALLOTTED DAYS

PROCEDURE RESPECTING DESIGNATION

Mr. Doug Lewis (Simcoe North) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the observance of the proprieties of the House, the maintenance of its authority and the management of its business, require that once an allotted day has been designated by the Government House Leader, and the House has entered upon the notice period preceding the allotted day, the designated allotted day must be proceeded with.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I have had discussions with the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Smith) and also with the House Leader for the New Democratic Party (Mr. Deans). In view of the fact that there were certain other items which occupied us over the last few hours, I believe that it would be in order for me to move:

That the House do now proceed to order No. 62 standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Cumberland-Colchester.

Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, we are prepared to support that motion. We want to make it clear that we were ready to debate this motion today, but we are always happy to accommodate the Opposition Leader and are prepared to go along with his request.

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I would certainly not want to break up this love affair.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): The Chair asks the Hon. Member for Simcoe North to repeat his motion.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I do have it in writing. I move:

That the House do now proceed to Order No. 62 standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Cumberland-Colchester.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): The House has heard the motion put by the Hon. Member for Simcoe North, seconded by the Hon. Member for Perth (Mr. Jarvis). Is the motion

adopted? The Hon. Member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert) on a point of order.

Mr. Hal Herbert (Vaudreuil): Mr. Speaker, it would help if we knew what we were voting on. I understood it to be Notice of Motion No. 62, which I read as being a motion in the name of the Hon. Member for Gatineau (Mr. Cousineau).

Mr. Smith: I believe it was No. 262.

Mr. Lewis: I am sorry, No. 262.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): That would be Public Bill No. 62 relating to Bill C-262. The House has heard the motion put by the Hon. Member for Simcoe North. Is it agreed?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion (Mr. Lewis) agreed to.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

[English]

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT PUBLICATION OF OPINION POLLS

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester) moved that Bill C-262, an Act to amend the Canada Elections Act (publication of the result of opinion polls), be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Mr. Herb Breau (Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, I have examined this Bill very carefully. It is a very important issue, and I know that the Hon. Member who has had experience in the administration of his Party has had occasion to be concerned by the effects that the publication of public opinion polls can have on elections. I am very well aware of his interest in that regard.

I am not so sure that the way to proceed with this nature is by way of legislation at this time. The form by which the Hon. Member wants to proceed concerns me a bit, so I wanted to put my concerns on the record. I believe that it has an impact on our notion of freedom of information and the right to know in today's society. I am not so sure that I would want to support that kind of a motion. I will listen to the debate very carefully.

[Translation]

Mr. Carlo Rossi (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Multiculturalism)): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me