Business of the House

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Richard): It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie)—External Affairs—Disbanding Commonwealth Committee on Indian Ocean security—Request for statement; the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Rowland)—The Canadian Economy—Possible sale of McClelland and Stewart publishing firm to foreign interests; the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. MacGuigan)—Canadian Broadcasting Corporation—Denial of Canadian television programs to Windsor station.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

OUTLINE OF GOVERNMENT ORDERS TO BE CALLED—PROCEDURE IN PRIVATE MEMBERS HOUR

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I could state the order of business. There are a number of points. Following private members hour, it is our intention to proceed at eight o'clock this evening with government order No. 8, Bill C-3, the Investment Companies Act. This will be followed by government order No. 43, Bill S-5, dealing with weights and measures. Following those items, we will return this evening to Bill C-207 in committee stage. Tomorrow, we will begin with government order No. 50, the textile measure. Following that, we will again return to the committee of the whole stage on Bill C-207.

With respect to this hour, Mr. Speaker, on Friday afternoon there was some discussion about the possibility of dealing with Bill S-11 on the basis of the uanimous consent of the House to refer that bill to the committee following second reading. With the consent of the House, it is now agreed that we do that with the exception that a speaker will be heard on that subject. If hon. members are in agreement, following that we will withdraw the bill standing in the name of the hon, member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters), Bill C-24, which deals with the same subject matter, but the subject matter of the bill will be referred to the same standing committee at the same time. Following those items, we will then revert to the regular order of business for this hour, the notice of motion standing in the name of the hon, member for Pell South (Mr. Chappell), notice of motion No. 25.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): That was one of the better speeches of the day, Mr. Speaker. We accept it.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Jerome) has clearly stated what has been agreed. I assume agreement to this program carries with it an assurance that when I move for the reference of the subject matter of Bill C-24,

[The Acting Chairman (Mr. Richard).]

after we dispose of the government's bill about rainmaking, the necessary unanimous consent will be forthcoming, it being understood that no speeches will be made at that point.

• (5:00 p.m.)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Richard): Is the House agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

WEATHER MODIFICATION IDENTIFICATION ACT

PROVISION FOR OBTAINING OF INFORMATION CONCERNING ACTIVITIES

Hon. C. M. Drury (for the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry) moved that Bill S-11, to provide for the obtaining of information respecting weather modification activities, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

[Translation]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I insisted on speaking about Bill S-11 for the purpose of giving the House a few explanations about the problems which might rise from this bill.

In 1964, I was the first member in this House to raise the question of cloud seeding. I was the laughing stock of other members and of the press in general. I would like to quote what was written in *Le Droit* of October 23, 1964:

The House of Commons has certainly been the scene of some unusual questions recently. The Créditiste member for Chapleau, Mr. Laprise, carried the day for ingenuity yesterday, by asking the Prime Minister whether the government authorized the irresponsible people who are seeding clouds.

The members, who were intrigued at first, smiled feebly. And as the member for Chapleau insisted on the importance of his question, quoting *La Terre de chez nous* and *La Frontière* of Rouyn, they could not refrain from laughing. The speaker of the House, with the seriousness of his functions, suggested that the question be put on the order paper.

Then the Prime Minister, visibly taken by surprise and about to burst with laughter like more and more of the members, promised to enquire.

Taking offence, the member for Lapointe rushed to his colleague's help and stated with an incensed taxpayer's voice that this practice of seeding clouds had brought about so much rain in the Lake St. John area that all the crops failed. Again, renewed gales of laughter. Mr. Gregoire, determined not to give up, explained that if city-dwellers did not take this seriously, peasants were fed up with getting their hair wet. He solicited the government's attention.

So they laughed at me. I was practically called an imbecile, a madman and I am glad to see today that the Senate has become just as mad as I was in 1964, since they are introducing Bill S-11 titled "An Act to provide for the obtaining of information respecting weather modification activities."