Oral Questions

Mr. Speaker: The hon, member has had a supplementary. He might pursue the matter tomorrow. The Chair will recognize the hon, member for Bellechasse and the hon, member for Hamilton-Wentworth before calling orders of the day.

[Translation]

ATOMIC ENERGY

CONSTRUCTION OF HEAVY WATER PLANTS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

Can he tell the House whether there is any new development concerning the construction of heavy water plants and, if so, will he make a statement on the matter before the summer holidays?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, we are now considering the financing of the construction of a heavy water plant. I am not sure whether those proceedings will be completed before the recess.

[English]

FLOODS

GREAT LAKES HIGH WATER LEVELS—GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES AFFECTED

Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of the Environment. Is he aware of an Ontario government report that the already dangerous high water levels of the Great Lakes may rise to even more disastrous levels next year, and can he advise whether the government of Canada is taking any direct action to assist families affected by these very high water levels?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, we are working co-operatively with the province of Ontario and a joint plan is being developed for future years.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT—AGREEMENT ON TIME OF DEBATE ON MOTION UNDER S.O. 26

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the government House leader about his intentions for the business of the House between now and such date as the government may think fit for being the start of the summer recess.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, today we will continue with the debate on the election expenses bill, to be followed by the Immigration Appeal Board bill, the two [Mr. Nelson.]

budget bills—excise tax and Customs tariff—and amendments to the Criminal Code. Hopefully, we will have the Olympics bill and the electoral boundaries readjustment bill out of committee and we would want to deal with them also.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order relating to the business of the House but more specifically with respect to the decision Your Honour made earlier today regarding a debate under Standing Order 26, as proposed by the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar, on domestic feed grains policy. May I say, believe it or not, that there have been discussions among the House leaders during the last hour and it has been made known to us that the Minister of Justice, in other words the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, cannot be here either tonight or tomorrow afternoon.

The request has been made by the government that this debate be postponed until Monday night at eight o'clock, and I may say that this request has been thoroughly considered. We are prepared to agree to it, and I believe the other parties are also prepared to do so, on the understanding that if the Minister of Justice has any statement to make on this matter, he will not make it over the weekend at a western Liberal conference but will make it in the debate beginning on Monday night at eight o'clock.

• (1510)

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I should like to put the matter more positively, if I may, and confirm to hon. members that the government's policy on domestic feed grains marketing in Canada will not be announced indeed until after the dates of July 24 to 26. I put it in those terms because I may well be speaking about a lot of things that relate to a lot of subjects touching on grains, but in regard to the policy on feed grains we do not intend to make it until after those dates.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, in light of that statement we would be satisfied if Your Honour were to ask if there is agreement to a House order that this debate take place at eight o'clock on Monday night.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair, of course, will go along with the House if there is unanimous consent, although I might say that the Chair has reservations about postponing "emergency" debates for some days.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: When hon. members take it upon themselves to seek the adjournment of the business of the House for a matter which they consider urgent, it is my impression that it is so urgent that it ought to be debated that very day or perhaps 24 hours later. I am always a little surprised when hon. members feel that such debate should be three or four days later: this appears to put in question the judgment of the Chair.

In any event, I appreciate the spirit in which the discussions have taken place. Taking into consideration the substance of the motion proposed by the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar, it is obvious that in the absence of the