

bers in the back rows to ask their questions. The question period has been extended by some 15 minutes today and this, I suggest, takes into account the so-called questions of privilege and the so-called points of order which have been raised.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, my point of order relates to the question directed to the Minister of Transport by the hon. member for Prince George-Peace River. The minister said something about negotiated rates not being covered in his original statement to the House. I just wonder what negotiated rates are, because the five leading steel companies of Canada have demanded that these increases should not be imposed—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am sure the hon. member will appreciate that this is debate. What that has to do with the Standing Orders of this institution is again beyond me. This is strictly debate and not a point of order.

Mr. Stackhouse: Mr. Speaker, I rise in relation to the same point of order.

Mr. Speaker: It would have to be another point of order. Is the hon. member referring to the point of order raised by the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich? If so, I will recognize him for that purpose.

Mr. Stackhouse: What I should like to do is request the consent of the House to revert to motions so that I might move that the question period be extended by at least ten minutes. I plead with you and the House to consider this request. I am reluctant to interrupt the regular business of the House but, like many other hon. members, I am supposed to represent a constituency. Since we returned from the Christmas break I have been endeavouring to ask a question of some significance to the people of my riding and I would certainly appreciate a few minutes more during which I and others might have a chance.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Speaker, it is with some hesitation that I rise to add to your obvious burdens, but I do feel I have a question of privilege. If Your Honour decides it is not one, I shall, of course, accept your decision. My question of privilege arises from the fact that on at least two separate occasions the Minister of Transport, first in the External Affairs Committee and then the other day in the House, gave an assurance he would lay on the table particulars of each and every ship leaving the west coast of Canada carrying crude oil to eastern Canada. To the best of my knowledge and belief, so far the minister has not complied with what he said he would do. I recognize that he did not put a time limit on when he would take this action, but it seems to me that if a minister gives a commitment to the House to lay certain documents on the table and he does not fulfil that undertaking, that does constitute a question of privilege as far as members of the House are concerned.

● (1220)

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the minister might be allowed to reply, subject to this. I would certainly have to rule that is not a question of privilege. Perhaps it is a grievance, but if it were a question of privilege I wonder whether the hon. member would want to refer the matter to the privileges

Energy Supplies Emergency Act

and elections committee and what motion he would propose. It is not a question of privilege but a grievance or a question that might have been asked in the question period if the hon. member had had an opportunity of being recognized. Since he has raised the matter by way of a question of privilege, perhaps the minister might be allowed to reply, after which the Chair will again attempt to call orders of the day.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I asked the department to prepare the documents. If they are not ready, they will be shortly and I shall table them on Monday if we are still sitting. I asked immediately that the documents be prepared, and I have always believed they would be prepared and ready by today.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

ENERGY SUPPLIES EMERGENCY ACT

MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR ALLOCATION BOARD,
MANDATORY ALLOCATION OF SUPPLIES AND RATIONING OF
CONTROLLED PRODUCTS

The House resumed, from Thursday, January 10, consideration of Bill C-236, to provide a means to conserve the supplies of petroleum products within Canada during periods of national emergency caused by shortages or market disturbances affecting the national security and welfare and the economic stability of Canada and to amend the National Energy Board Act, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works.

Mr. Speaker: The House has reached motion No. 7.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River) moved:

That Bill C-236, an act to provide a means to conserve the supplies of petroleum products within Canada during periods of national emergency caused by shortages or market disturbances affecting the national security and welfare and the economic stability of Canada, and to amend the National Energy Board Act, be amended by deleting clause 23, lines 12 to 40 on page 16 and lines 1 to 25 on page 17, and renumbering subsequent clauses accordingly.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to have such eminent support as that of the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings (Mr. Hees) as seconder of the motion. He has a thorough knowledge of the particular subject matter, and coming from the region that he does in Ontario I know he will support me handsomely. This is a very simple amendment which seeks to delete clause 23 of the bill.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Baldwin: I hesitate to bring into the House some legitimate business after what we have just been through, but I trust hon. members will not hold me remiss if I deal with the business we are supposed to be discussing today.

Obviously, clause 23 had its genesis in the technical advisory committee, which I understand was largely domi-