

*Capital Punishment*

● (1510)

**Mr. Riis:** Mr. Speaker, I hesitate to interrupt my hon. friend but I simply want to say that the point he is raising involves one of the members of the caucus that I represent. The Member is on his way back to the Chamber. Would the Hon. Member consider holding off for a moment until the Member has a chance to arrive?

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis), the House Leader of the New Democratic Party, has suggested that the Hon. Member for Selkirk—Interlake (Mr. Holtmann) pause at least for a moment or two until the Hon. Member for Kenora—Rainy River (Mr. Parry) could be in the Chamber. Could I ask the Hon. House Leader to see where the Hon. Member is. I think that is a perfectly reasonable request. I would just ask all Members to wait for a minute or two.

**Mr. Riis:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the co-operation of Members of the House. I have been informed that notice was not given. I appreciate there is no requirement to give notice that a question of privilege should be raised at this moment, however, the Hon. Member for Kenora—Rainy River (Mr. Parry) at the moment is not available. He will be later on. I must say that he is not here and is unable to be here to witness and hear the comments of the Hon. Member.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap, the House Leader of the New Democratic Party is absolutely right. There is no requirement to give notice. Notice is sometimes given. Under the rules on an application like this it can be withdrawn right up to the last minute. Even if the Speaker has notice of it, not only do I have no obligation, I am not permitted to give notice to the other side. Under the circumstances, perhaps I could ask the Hon. Member for Selkirk—Interlake whether it would be possible, and perhaps the Hon. House Leader could help, that this whole matter be adjourned to the same time tomorrow. If that suits all parties, it might be the answer.

**Mr. Holtmann:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Member cannot be reached, I would be prepared to present this with your permission tomorrow at the same time.

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps the House Leader for the New Democratic Party could convey that generous accommodation to the Hon. Member for Kenora—Rainy River. I will arrange to hear both Members, and other Members if it is necessary, tomorrow at three o'clock, if that is satisfactory to everybody.

**Mr. Riis:** I want to say that it is certainly acceptable, Mr. Speaker. I want to express to my friend from Selkirk—Interlake how much we appreciate his willingness to co-operate on this very important matter. I want to express that gratitude and say that we will be here ready to debate the issue tomorrow.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think I should say as Speaker that I appreciate the patience of all Hon. Members. While perhaps a few minutes were taken, sometimes a few minutes taken this way actually saves a lot of time in the long run.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS***[English]***CAPITAL PUNISHMENT****ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REINSTATEMENT**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski:

That this House supports, in principle, the reinstatement of capital punishment and directs that a special committee on reinstatement, composed of 15 members, be established, hold hearings and make its final report to the House no later than three (3) months following the adoption of this motion, such report to provide recommendations on:

- (a) which offence or offences should carry the death penalty, and in what circumstances;
- (b) which method or methods should be used to carry out the penalty of death, and in what circumstances;

That, pursuant to Standing Order 107(1), this special committee be hereby appointed as a committee to prepare and bring in a bill no later than three months following the adoption of this motion, founded on the committee's recommendations on (a) and (b) above; such a bill shall be the object of a separate and distinct report of the special committee, and such a report shall be its final report;

That such bill, when reported from such special committee to the House, be deemed pursuant to Standing Order 107(1) to have been introduced and stand on the Order Paper, in the name of the special committee chairman, for first reading at the next sitting of the House; and that subsequent House stages of the bill be considered under "Government Orders", with the bill standing under the heading "Government Business"; and that, when the said bill has been read a second time, it shall stand referred to a Legislative Committee;

That the Striking Committee be empowered to name the Members of the special committee, provided that once the Striking Committee report is laid upon the Table, it shall be deemed concurred in;

That the special committee have the power to sit while the House is sitting and during periods when the House stands adjourned;

That the special committee be empowered to report from time to time and send for persons and papers, and to print such papers and evidence from time to time as may be ordered by the committee and to retain the services of expert, technical, professional and clerical staff;

That the special committee be empowered to adjourn from place to place inside Canada and that, when deemed necessary, the appropriate staff accompany the committee;

That a quorum of the special committee be eight (8) members for any vote, resolution or other decision; and that the chairman be authorized to hold meetings to receive evidence and authorize the printing thereof whenever six (6) members are present;

That any substitution of membership on the special committee be made pursuant to Standing Order 94(4); and

That, notwithstanding the usual practices of this House, if the House is not sitting when the special committee is ready to issue its final report and the said bill, the special committee shall present its report and the bill to the House by filing them with the Clerk of the House provided that the report shall then be deemed to have been laid upon the Table, and the bill shall then be deemed, pursuant to Standing Order 107(1), to have been introduced at the first sitting of the House thereafter and to stand on the Order Paper in the name of the special committee chairman, for first reading at the next sitting of the House;