Supply-National Defence

difficulties to which I will refer when this discussion resumes.

May I call it five o'clock? Progress reported.

• (5:00 p.m.)

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, I should like to say that after discussion with the house leaders of the other parties I have undertaken to ask that the private members' hour today be forgone and that we continue during the private members' hour with a discussion of the Department of National Defence estimates. Further, in order to overcome a difficulty that may arise in the next few days, I have undertaken to ask leave for unanimous consent of the house to proceed through all stages of a bill to amend the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, which merely changes the period "within 15 days" as it appears in section 20 of that act to "45 sitting days", and which makes the amendment effective only on the current redistribution. The effect of this will be to allow us to proceed with the business of the house in an orderly fashion over the next few weeks.

If we have unanimous consent, Mr. Speaker, I suggest we could proceed with that bill now. I might add that copies of the bill in English and French are available for hon. members.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the house give unanimous consent to suspend the private members' hour at this time?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the house give unanimous consent to revert to the introduction of bills?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

REDISTRIBUTION

AMENDMENT TO EXTEND TIME FOR CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-126, to extend the time for consideration of objections pursuant to section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act with respect to the reports of commissions established for the decennial census taken in the year 1961.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When shall the bill be read a second time?

[Mr. Dinsdale.]

Some hon. Members: Now.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: By consent, now.

Mr. McIlraith moved the second reading of the bill.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Batten in the chair.

On clause 1.

Mr. Aiken: May I ask the house leader, just for clarification, whether the amendment that is being proposed will be a permanent amendment to the act?

Mr. McIlraith: No, Mr. Chairman, its effect is limited to the current redistribution.

Mr. Aiken: Thank you.

Mr. Herridge: May I ask the house leader whether, when the proposals for amendments to the electoral boundary districts come before the house, hon members will have an opportunity to speak to a motion recommending changes in this respect?

Mr. McIlraith: If I understood the question correctly it was whether hon. members would have a right to speak to the motions presented by way of objection to the reports of the redistribution commissions. If I understood the question correctly, the answer is yes.

Clause agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported and read the third time and passed.

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Batten in the chair.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

1. Departmental administration, including grants to military associations, institutes and other organizations as detailed in the estimates and authority, notwithstanding section 30 of the Financial Administration Act, and subject to allotment by the Treasury Board, for total commitments of \$2,560,546,715\$ for the purposes of Votes 1, 5, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 of this Department regardless of the year in which such commitments will come in course of payment (of which it is estimated that \$1,044,262,000 will come due for payment in future years) and authority to make recoverable advances under any of the said votes and, notwithstanding the Financial Administration Act, to spend revenue received during the year in respect of assistance rendered to the United Nations, any party of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or any provincial or municipal government, \$5,204,855.

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to thank hon. members of the committee for their co-operation when we were sitting in the whole house.