

an Act to revise the Bank Act. Next week, beginning Monday, we will continue with the Bank Act revision until adoption on third reading.

Some hon. Members: Wednesday!

Mr. Pinard: Sorry, hon. members are right, beginning Wednesday since the House will not sit on Monday. An order has already been made to that effect. As specified in the motion adopted by the House yesterday, the hours lost on Monday will be recuperated but they will have to be spent on the banking legislation and that is why I say, Madam Speaker, that we will consider that bill until adoption on third reading. As a result of a meeting with parliamentary leaders it has been decided that if there is to be a debate on the proclamations which are to be tabled shortly after the budget debate and which concern the energy policy that debate will not begin before November 21. That was the agreement among parliamentary leaders. Since that has been agreed to by all parties we are now free to begin the uninterrupted study of the banking legislation with the hope that it will pass third reading as soon as possible.

[English]

Mr. Beatty: Madam Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. Will the government House leader indicate to the House when he will be calling the continuation of the second reading debate of Bill C-42, the Post Office Crown corporation bill? Could he also tell the House whether, in keeping with the recommendations made in the report of the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments, tabled in the House in July, the regulation-enabling clauses of the bill will be sent to the Joint Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments? Is the government prepared to send the regulation-enabling clauses of the bill to that committee?

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, as to the last question of the hon. member, I understand—and this is the agreement I had with the House leader of the hon. member's party—that there is a notice of motion for concurrence in those reports on the order paper. Such motions would not be put before consultation with me, according to the understanding we have, since there are at least two other groups looking at the same matter, namely, the task force on regulations, the special committee of the House, and the Economic Council of Canada which is supposed to report some time in January or February on the same subject. So I would not like to deal with these reports at this stage before those two groups at least have had a chance to report.

In so far as Bill C-42, the Post Office Act, is concerned I intend to call that bill for second reading. We had hoped it would have been sent to committee much earlier, but there are more speeches to come from the hon. member's party than were expected. We hope that after we conclude our debate on the Bank Act, this bill will be sent quickly to the committee so that we can go on to deal with the bill on access to information

and send that to committee with the least delay possible before we deal with the last seven allotted days before December 10.

Mr. Beatty: I am sorry, Madam Speaker, I might have confused the government House leader. The question I asked relates expressly to Bill C-42. It would certainly facilitate passage of that bill in terms of debate on second reading if the government House leader were prepared to send the regulation-enabling clauses of Bill C-42 to the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments for study following second reading debate. Is he prepared to do that?

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, I will consult with the Postmaster General as soon as possible. But in any case we would much prefer the bill to be sent to committee right away, if possible.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

MR. GREENAWAY—PETITIONS RESPECTING NATURAL GAS

Mr. Lorne Greenaway (Cariboo-Chilcotin): Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my constituents in British Columbia and those of my colleagues, the hon. member for Richmond-South Delta (Mr. Siddon), the hon. member for Prince George-Peace River (Mr. Oberle), the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen), the hon. member for North Vancouver-Burnaby (Mr. Cook), and the hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Wenman), who strongly express their opposition to a federal excise tax on natural gas.

The petitions presented herein contain in excess of 6,000 signatures of British Columbia residents and are in addition to the over 26,000 tabled by my colleagues last October 24. As this is the last day of the debate on the budget which imposes this unjust and unconstitutional export tax, as well as a crippling tax on domestic users of natural gas, I appeal to all hon. members to reject this deceitful and destructive budget. I respectfully submit these petitions on behalf of my five colleagues and myself to you, Madam Speaker, and I ask for their serious consideration.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 80, 1,417, 1,512, 1,582 and 1,604.