

Business of the House

and Immigration will be making a statement when you call Statements by Ministers. I know that perhaps there has been a shorter than usual notice given to the opposition Parties, but that is clearly because we did not receive a response from them as to whether they would be prepared to move with the new Bill or Bill C-55.

Mr. Gauthier: That's nonsense.

Mr. Mazankowski: With those few explanatory remarks, I hope that in the interests of goodwill, commitment and dedication to the welfare and the interests of the country, we can proceed in an orderly and effective manner.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, if the Government House Leader (Mr. Mazankowski) was serious about approaching the recall of the House in the spirit of goodwill aimed at obtaining the co-operation of the Official Opposition, and the opposition Parties generally, he has shown a very strange and non-constructive way to go about it.

This morning at 7.30 the Deputy House Leader for the Government, the House Leader for the NDP, and myself were together waiting to do an interview on the program called *Canada AM*. At that time I told the Deputy House Leader for the Government that our caucus had decided that, in view of what they understood to be the length, the complexity, and the detail of the Bill the Government intended to introduce today, the ordinary and normal rules of Parliament providing for 24 hours between first reading and second reading should apply. Therefore, I told him that we were not willing to suspend the normal rules of Parliament and move directly today to second reading debate on the Bill the Government wishes to introduce today on refugee abuse. I asked the Deputy House Leader for the Government whether he—

• (1110)

Mr. Speaker: I remind Hon. Members that the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) has made a lengthy opening statement, and quite properly so. Hon. Members gave the Deputy Prime Minister a good hearing. I know that all Hon. Members would want to extend that courtesy to the representatives of both the Official Opposition and the New Democratic Party.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, in the waiting room at the *Canada AM* CTV studio I said to the Deputy House Leader for the Government that the Government House Leader had asked me to provide an answer to his request with respect to beginning second reading debate immediately, contrary to the normal rules, before 9 a.m. this morning. I said to the Deputy House Leader for the Government: "I am conveying to you as Deputy House Leader the answer of the Official Opposition. We want the normal rules of Parliament to apply". I asked him if he would convey that information to

his Leader or whether I would have to call the Government House Leader directly. The Deputy Leader for the Government said: "No: I am the Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader. I am the Deputy Leader—"

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): He said: "I will be happy to convey that information to the Government House Leader. You don't have to do it". It is totally unjustified for the Government House Leader, who does not have the guts to stay and listen—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): He does not have the guts to stay here and take it.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gauthier: Absolutely impolite!

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: I am sure all Members realize that there is a great deal of business to which we must attend, something which will be more easily attended to if Hon. Members respect the fact that when a Member has the floor the appropriate courtesies should be extended to that Hon. Member.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, the Government House Leader is not justified in saying that he did not give the usual notice to the spokesmen for the opposition Parties concerning the intention of the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Bouchard) to give a statement because we had not told him before 9 a.m., as undertaken and promised, whether we would be willing to agree to suspend the normal rules and begin second reading debate immediately. Very clearly, I carried out that undertaking by conveying that information to the Deputy House Leader for the Government. If the Government House Leader and the Deputy House Leader are not talking to one another, then that is just another sign of the disorganization and incompetence of the Government. It is not justification for not extending to the opposition critics the normal courtesy of providing at least an hour or more notice of the intention of the Minister to give a statement and to provide an advance copy of that statement.

I now wish to make two other points. First, I think that it would be normal, even when the Government claims that a measure is urgent, a measure that will be seen to be complex, detailed and lengthy when it is presented in the form of a Bill, that we would want to have the usual period of 24 hours between first reading of the Bill, its printing in official form, and the beginning of debate on second reading. This is not only so each and every Member of the House, including government members if they are really interested, can individually and personally study the Bill before they have to take part in a debate on second reading, but so that members of the public