Disposition of Supply Motions

these three items to be included in the estimates and in the motion which would be put to the House at this time.

An hon. Member: So what?

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, we want to make it abundantly clear that in raising this point of order we are in no way opposed to any of the three items. But we do want to make it equally clear that the rights, prerogatives and privileges of the opposition and of parliament itself must be preserved.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nielsen: We wholeheartedly welcome your ruling in this regard. We are prepared to consent to the inclusion of these items in the Appropriation Act on the basis of the citation that Your Honour has given us from the eighteenth edition of May, page 731. I suggest that is the way the government should proceed, and they will have our consent.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will put the motion again.

The President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) moves:

That Supplementary Estimates (A) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1974, laid before the House November 7, 1973, except the item disposed of earlier this day, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

[Translation]

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board) moved that Bill C-239, for granting to Her Majesty certains sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending March 31, 1974, be read the first time and be printed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

[English]

Mr. Drury moved that Bill C-239, for granting to Her Majesty certains sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending March 31, 1974, be read the second time and referred to committee of the whole.

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

Clauses 2 to 5 inclusive agreed to.

The Chairman: Is the hon. member for Scarborough West rising on a point of order?

Mr. Harney: Mr. Chairman, I hope we have not had a surfeit of points of order tonight. Mine will be very, very brief. I have raised it before and some hon. members know what it is about. When I raised the point of order previously, on an occasion very much like this, there was general approval of the point but so far nothing has been done about the matter. My point is simply this: in every list presented to the members of this House, the alphabetical arrangement, as in the present schedule, is according to alphabetical order as the titles appear in English.

Mr. Harney: "So what", an hon. member says. The "so what" is this. For a member whose only language is French, there is no order to the schedule. He has to go to the English schedule to find the item he is looking for. I think that once in a while, Mr. Chairman, we should at least alternate the procedure or provide a listing which would make it as easy for the French-speaking members to find an item as it is for the English-speaking members. At the very least, if we proceeded occasionally in French we would have "affaires" first where they properly belong.

• (2340)

[Translation]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Chairman, concerning this point of order, I would like to support vigourously what the hon. member has just said.

I remember that a number of months ago, at the very time that the same ridiculous procedure was being considered, the Social Credit Party of Canada was fighting in order to get a copy of the legislation. We know that for more than 100 years, members had not even been entitled to such a copy so that they could not follow what was going on in the House. Now that we are entitled to it, they keep on writing the table of contents of the appendix in the English alphabetical order so that French-speaking members are once again being penalized. This is why, Mr. Chairman, I want to support vigourously what the hon. member has said so that at last we really get to follow in the House a bilingual procedure in keeping with Canada.

[English]

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, I would be prepared to support the proposition put forward by the hon. member for Scarborough West, but I would suggest that we do not bother with the list at all. There is no discussion on them and there is no real reason to find any of these items, so what the hell difference does it make whether they are in the bill or not?

Schedule agreed to.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

The Chairman: Shall the bill carry?

Some hon. Members: On division.

The Chairman: Carried on division.

Mr. Nielsen: I believe I heard the Chairman say that the bill was carried on division. There is no division on this side of the House.

Bill reported.

Mr. Drury moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass. Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.