

*Business of the House***BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the customary questions for a Thursday. Will the Government House Leader give us an indication of the business he intends to call for the coming week?

Mr. Speaker: I gather the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) wants to raise a point of order. Order, please. A point of order? Order, please. The Hon. Minister of Agriculture.

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Mr. Wise: I appreciate you recognizing me, Mr. Speaker, and if I just had the support of the House for 30 seconds I think I could clarify the information that the Hon. Leader of the New Democratic Party raised earlier during the Question Period. I indicated that I was responding from memory.

I had an opportunity to receive more specific information and I think that perhaps it would be good information to be shared by both of us. The actual commitment was to reduce the price of farm fuels by 20 cents a gallon by removing the 9 per cent federal sales tax and by not collecting the current excise tax. The action, of course, was to remove the 3-cent sales tax rebate and the 1.5-cent excise tax. That goes into effect, providing a benefit of some 18 cents a gallon.

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Mr. Speaker: On the business question the Member for Windsor West (Mr. Gray).

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I would like to proceed with the customary question on House business. I might say parenthetically that the interjection of the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) has nothing whatsoever to do with House business. I say with all due respect to him that if he wanted to make a statement of that kind there is another time and place to do it. I hope the Government House Leader will now give us a statement as to the business he intends to call for the coming week.

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Mr. Nunziata: Just as the Minister of Energy had almost completed her point of order, and as she was sitting down I distinctly heard her either call you or the Member for Hamilton East (Ms. Copps) an s.o.b., and I would ask Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Order, please. I will check the record as is our custom. I did not hear the comment. I take it the Hon. Member would like me to check the record and I will do so.

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Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, some time back the House Leader of the Official Opposition asked me about the business for the next week. I would like now to respond to that question. Parenthetically, Mr. Speaker, I might say that we look forward to a very busy and interesting week. I hope we can make some progress.

Today on Orders of the Day we will, of course, start the consideration of report stage of Bill C-62 regarding employment equity. After some consultations with opposition representatives and the House Leaders I will interrupt the consideration of Bill C-62 and call as an item of business Bill C-99, an Act respecting the borrowing authority which has now been reported out of committee. Hopefully we can make some progress on that. If we have not completed our consideration of Bill C-62 by tomorrow, we can maybe go back to that particular item of legislation.

I would like to put forward Bill C-45 and Bill C-103 in that sequence as the business into next week. We will continue to monitor progress on that legislation and consult. If there is progress made we will bring forward further legislation, and I will advise the House at the earliest possible date.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the Day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

EMPLOYMENT EQUITY ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House proceeded with consideration of Bill C-62, An Act respecting employment equity, as reported (with amendments) from a Legislative Committee.

Mr. Speaker: There were more than 60 motions on the Order Paper to amend Bill C-62, an Act respecting Employment Equity.

Let me first deal with the motions standing in the name of the Honourable Member for Outremont (Mrs. Pénin). From the consultations that I have had with the Official Opposition, I understand that the Hon. Member for Outremont will not proceed with her motions. Accordingly, motions Nos. 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37 and 38 will not be selected for debate and will be dropped from the *Notice Paper*.

[English]

Motion No. 1 is in order and will be debated and voted on separately.

Motions Nos. 2A, 9, 11A, 13A, 14A, 15, 16A, 20A, 22, 24, 25A, 26A, 31 and 36A have all been dealt with in committee, or closely resemble motions dealt with in committee. The new provisional Standing Orders not only allow the Chair to group motions for debate but also, in effect, instruct the Chair to use its discretion in selecting motions for debate, guided by the note attached to Standing Order 114(10) which reads in part:

—a motion, previously defeated in committee, will only be selected if the Speaker judges it to be of such exceptional significance as to warrant a further consideration at the report stage.

Of course, this is our first time through this procedure and the Chair finds itself in a dilemma at this point. How is the