

will call supply either tomorrow afternoon or at eight o'clock tomorrow night, and I shall be happy to accede to his request. But if the minister wants to leave it to some time in the next two or three days, then I regret saying that I would have to go on. If he will say that an opportunity will be permitted tomorrow afternoon or tomorrow night, that will be all right. I do not think I am being a bit unfair.

Mr. MARTIN: I will undertake that, for either tomorrow night or the next night.

Some hon. MEMBERS: No.

Mr. MARTIN: I do not know what the plans of the house are for Thursday. But the hon. member's original request was that it be within two days.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings-Peterborough): No, my request was that we have it tomorrow.

Mr. MARTIN: I will undertake to do my best for tomorrow night and, if not tomorrow night, then the next day. I want to be absolutely fair.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings-Peterborough): I am not being difficult with the minister, but he can easily arrange to have it tomorrow afternoon or tomorrow evening.

Mr. MacNICOL: The minister knows about Thursday.

Mr. MARTIN: I was wrong about Thursday. There is no supply on Thursday.

Mr. MacNICOL: Then, what is the minister deciding to do—to allow the hon. member to go on tomorrow some time?

Mr. MARTIN: Yes, I will do my very best. I wish to be fair with the house. I dislike undertaking something I cannot live up to, but I undertake that he will be given a chance tomorrow night.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings-Peterborough): As I understand the rules, on going into supply on Thursdays and Fridays there is no motion.

Mr. MARTIN: Yes, that is right.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings-Peterborough): But I am perfectly satisfied with what has been said.

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Mr. CLARENCE GILLIS (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I am glad that matter is settled. Now the minister has another one on his hands. Before you leave the Chair, Mr. Speaker, I intend to discuss a matter which I consider is of urgent importance to the people I represent in the house. It means bread and butter to them.

I listened to the minister's request of the hon. member for Hastings-Peterborough (Mr. White), and there is no minister I would rather oblige than the one who has just spoken.

Mr. MARTIN: Thanks for those kind words.

Mr. GILLIS: Nevertheless I do not consider the request he made of the hon. member for Hastings-Peterborough was a valid one. The fact that many of the cabinet ministers are out of the house is immaterial. All of them can read. Tomorrow they can read what took place in the house tonight and, in their absence, they can do something about the subject matter discussed. I am not criticizing them for being where they are this evening; it is their duty.

If there were any possibility within the next couple of weeks of discussing the matter I am now going to discuss—and I shall be as brief as I can—I would not be raising the matter at this time. However, there is not.

Mr. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, in view of the attitude I have taken, and in fairness to the hon. member for Hastings-Peterborough, if the hon. member who is now speaking persists in going on I do not see how the house can refuse to hear what the hon. member for Hastings-Peterborough has to say. In fairness, it must be said that he took the initiative in the matter.

Mr. GILLIS: Well, Mr. Speaker, that matter has already been settled. The minister and the hon. member for Hastings-Peterborough have already come to an understanding. The hon. member agreed to let his problem stand until such time as the appropriate minister is in his seat, and supply is to be called to suit his convenience. Then the hon. member took his seat.

I do not consider I am violating any of the rules of the house in raising the problem I am now about to discuss.

Mr. MARTIN: I do not wish to be unduly persistent, either; but in view of the request I make of the hon. member for Hastings-Peterborough, I am sure the hon. member for Cape Breton South will agree that I should make the same request of him. He will have the same chance tomorrow night to make the observations he now has in mind. They would be made with the ministerial benches filled, and with the responsible minister in his seat. In view of the circumstances, and of the engagement of my colleagues, I think my request is not an unreasonable one. And, knowing the hon. member as I do, I have no hesitation in asking him to accede to it.