

The Budget

of Bill C-62; an act to amend the Excise Tax Act, Criminal Code, Customs Act, Customs Tariff, Excise Act, Income Tax Act, Statistics Act, and Tax Court of Canada Act;

That such broadcasting be on the basis of the principles and practices now governing broadcast of the proceedings of the House of Commons.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Members have heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed from Thursday, February 22, consideration of the motion of Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre) that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government; and the amendment of Mr. Young (Gloucester) (p. 8636).

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. My understanding was that the hon. member for Regina—Wascana had the floor at the interruption of debate last time. I am advised that for reasons I assume to do with flight connections he is not able to make it, but he would like to continue his speech later in the day.

I am wondering if the House would give its consent to allow him to continue that speech at a later time during the day, in light of the fact that he cannot be here right now.

Mr. Milliken: Mr. Speaker, we are happy to consent to the hon. member using any unexpired time he may have had at the conclusion of his speech and the usual period for questions and comments at the conclusion of that speech.

I would also like to say while I am on my feet, Sir, that during the continuation of this debate the speakers from this party will be speaking for 10 minutes followed by a 5-minute question and comment period if that is agreeable to the House.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, certainly we are prepared to give consent to allow the hon. member for Regina—Wascana to complete his remarks, followed by the usual question and comment period.

I too would seek an understanding of the House that, if the various parties wish to divide up the particular slot allotted into a 10 and 5 as opposed to 20 and 10, that would meet its approval.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank my colleagues and friends opposite for allowing the hon. member for Regina—Wascana to continue his speech at a later time today.

Second, I wish to indicate that in our usual attitude of co-operation we would be happy to allow the other parties to split their time as they wish.

We on the government side may consider doing the same, although I am not informed of that at this moment.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I just want to take advantage of this atmosphere of co-operation and ask my hon. friend, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader, whether there is any possibility of the government reconsidering and allowing the finance committee to travel so witnesses from various parts of Canada can be heard.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows I am a very generous man, but there are limits to my generosity.

Mr. Milliken: Mr. Speaker, one thing has been drawn to my attention. The hon. member for Regina—Wascana, as I understand the situation, may have been addressing the House in this debate immediately before the vote was taken on Thursday evening. If that is so, it may be that his time has expired by reason of the interruption and the vote. Perhaps the parliamentary secretary could confirm that point.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I think we have had enough negotiation on the floor. We can decide that later.

We will proceed to debate. The hon. member for St. Boniface has the floor for 10 minutes, plus 5 minutes for questions.