

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, December 16, 1985

The House met at 11 a.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

REPRESENTATION ACT, 1985

ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER THIRD READING STAGE OF BILL C-74

The House resumed from Thursday, December 12, consideration of the motion of Mr. Hnatyshyn:

That, in relation to Bill C-74, an Act to amend the Constitution Act, 1967 and the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act and to provide for certain matters in relation to the 1981 decennial census, one sitting day be allotted to the third reading stage of the said Bill; and

That fifteen minutes before the expiry of the time provided for the consideration of government business on the above-mentioned sitting day, any proceedings then before the House shall be interrupted, if necessary, for the purpose of this Order and, in turn, every question necessary to dispose of the said stage of the said Bill shall be put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Mission-Port Moody (Mr. St. Germain).

Mr. Foster: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I notice that the Hon. Member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Baker) was in his place. I would like to move:

That the Hon. Member for Gander-Twillingate be now heard.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: You can't make a motion on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: With respect, that motion is entirely in order under the circumstances as the Hon. Member had not begun his speech.

The House will know that when there are two people rising at the same time, the Speaker chooses someone to speak. I reviewed the list and there had been a Liberal and New Democrat and now a Conservative. However, it is reasonable to rise on a point of order prior to the commencement of the speech, and our practice is to allow a motion of the kind that has been put.

Therefore, is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: All those in favour of the motion, please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Speaker: All those opposed, please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Speaker: In my opinion the yeas have it.
And more than five Members having risen:

Mr. Speaker: Call in the Members.

● (1110)

And the division bells having rung:

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The six minutes remaining under Standing Order 84 had expired, but I chose to wait a little longer to see if the Whips would present themselves for the matter on which the bells had begun to ring at 11.05 o'clock.

It seems clear to me that I have no choice in this matter but to interrupt the bells and advise the House that, it being 11.15 a.m., the two hours provided for the consideration of the motion now before the House, under the provisions of Standing Order 84, have expired. Therefore, I believe, I must declare the motion under which the bells originally rang lapsed and, under the terms of that Standing Order, I interpret it as my duty to interrupt the proceedings and put every question necessary to dispose of the motion.

Accordingly, the question is the following one: Mr. Hnatyshyn, seconded by Mr. Crombie, moves:

That, in relation to Bill C-74, an Act to amend the Constitution Act, 1867 and the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act and to provide for certain matters in relation to the 1981 decennial census, one sitting day be allotted to the third reading stage of the said Bill; and

That 15 minutes before the expiry of the time provided for the consideration of government business on the above-mentioned sitting day, any proceedings then before the House shall be interrupted, if necessary, for the purpose of this Order and, in turn, every question necessary to dispose of the said stage of the said Bill shall be put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.