

[Translation]

**Mr. Pinard:** Madam Speaker, may I draw the hon. member's attention to the provisions of Standing Order 18(2)?

[English]

**Mr. Blenkarn:** Madam Speaker, the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre asked the government House leader about House business. The government House leader said something about dealing with Bill C-59, the borrowing authority bill, today or maybe tomorrow. Would he be more specific as to whether he intends to call Bill C-59 today on government orders, or is he intending to call it tomorrow? When exactly does he intend to call that bill?

● (1520)

[Translation]

**Mr. Pinard:** As I said earlier, Madam Speaker, there is a certain urgency in proceeding with the report stage and third reading of Bill C-59. It may be recalled that we began the report stage last Friday and that the official opposition party introduced an amendment. It has become a tradition in the House that this type of bill to authorize the government to borrow a certain sum of money has to be debated for a limited time so it can be adopted. That was done when the Progressive Conservative government was in office and that is done practically every year. We had to do that to refer the bill to committee. When we reached the report stage we thought we could have final passage last Friday. But given the circumstances where the opposition would rather bring Parliament to a standstill, we were unable to complete third reading of that bill on that day. Therefore my answer to the questions of the hon. member cannot be more precise. We have been forced to serve notice that the debate at the report stage and on third reading will be limited to two additional days, that is one day per stage, and that notice was given yesterday. We are now in a position to move a motion to that effect, which will require two hours of debate, and then two additional days will be devoted to complete the study of that bill which should normally have been adopted in a few hours had the hon. member's party given us a minimum of co-operation.

He is asking me to tell him precisely when we will proceed with that study. I can assure him that we will do so as soon as possible after the House has approved the motion to grant two additional days for debate.

[English]

**Madam Speaker:** I would like to recognize only those members who rise on government business. I will recognize others later on.

**Mr. Stevens:** Madam Speaker, I have no alternative but to reply to what the President of the Privy Council has just said. I spoke on that bill and I resent greatly being told that I was an obstructionist. The fact is it involves \$14 billion of borrowing, yet the government House leader has the audacity to tell us

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that two hours should be sufficient. He is talking about \$7 billion an hour.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Madam Speaker:** That may have been a point of order but I doubt that it was a question on government business.

**Mr. Domm:** Madam Speaker, this arises from the discussion yesterday where you said that my point was well taken but the minister was not here to respond. I would like to draw the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs' attention to the answer he gave as recorded in *Hansard* for March 24 and—

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. I asked that only those members wanting to discuss government business rise at this time because I have other matters to deal with.

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### PRIVILEGE

MR. NIELSEN—OFFICE OF MR. MUNRO (HAMILTON EAST) IN WHITEHORSE, YUKON

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Madam Speaker, my question of privilege involves the illegal use of government funds by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Munro) which I submit directly affects my rights and responsibilities as a Member of Parliament and impairs my ability to carry out the duties expected of me. It has to do with a question responded to by the minister, but by no other government departments as yet, concerning the establishment of political offices in certain ridings with no sitting Liberal member.

My question appears in *Hansard* of March 9, 1981, at page 8026, and the relevant portion is paragraph 4(a):

4. (a) What is the rent paid for the office of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development situated at 307 Jarvis Street in the City of Whitehorse, Yukon (b) who is the landlord of the building (c) what is the salary being paid to the so-called ministerial assistant (d) what other staff is being hired and at what salary (e) what is the purpose in establishing such an office?

Then paragraph (5) reads:

Are other similar offices being set up in other constituencies where there is no Liberal Member of Parliament?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Collenette) responded on the same page that the rental was \$7,560 per year; the landlord was Davos Holdings Limited. Part (b) of my question was answered by saying that in so far as the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is concerned, the salary being paid was \$17,549 to \$20,321. Part (d) was answered by saying no other staff was employed.

Coming to part (e), the central portion of the question which I would like the Chair to consider, it reads:

The purpose of the office in Yukon is to provide a direct communication link to the minister's office in Ottawa, to allow Yukoners the same access to the minister of IAND as is provided to other Canadians, to facilitate more consultation with Yukoners on matters that affect them and to expedite the early