

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, September 10, 1987

The House met at 11 a.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 67(2) and Standing Order 99(2), I wish to table in both official languages the government response to the recommendations of the Report of the Standing Committee on Consumer and Corporate Affairs entitled, *Food Irradiation*.

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[*Translation*]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

● (1110)

[*English*]

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Mr. Speaker: I must advise the House that I have had a question of privilege brought to my attention, with sufficient notice. I recognize the Hon. Member for Saint-Jacques.

Mr. Jacques Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): Mr. Speaker, I gave you notice of a question of privilege because of an incident that occurred yesterday a few minutes before the House recessed.

Since then I have had conversations with the Hon. Minister of State for Treasury Board (Mr. Lewis) who assured me that

in no way was he trying to misrepresent a conversation we had with regard to the time left in the debate on Bill C-84. I will take this explanation at face value.

In the spirit of goodwill, and especially in the spirit of maintaining cordial relations between House Leaders of Parties, I will say that it is a dead issue.

Mr. Speaker: I hope that those very courteous words do not lead to another intervention.

I wish to thank the Hon. Member for his comments. I wish to remark that while there are sometimes disagreements in this place, often they are solved by amicable discussions between Members. That is part of the tradition of this place. I wish to thank both the Minister of State and the Hon. Member for Saint-Jacques for their goodwill.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*Translation*]

IMMIGRATION ACT, 1976

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Bouchard that Bill C-84, an Act to amend the Immigration Act, 1976 and the Criminal Code in consequence thereof, be read the third time and passed.

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis): Mr. Speaker, as I was saying last night . . . I am sorry, truth is always the easiest thing. Well, I just came in to join the procedural debate which, I thought, would last longer.

Last night I was saying that one of the roles of the Minister of Immigration (Mr. Bouchard) . . . And I am not directing my remarks to him personally because he is here this morning, but such is my idea of a Minister of Immigration. Like at the time I was arts critic I used to say that defending Cabinet decisions before the artistic community and people who are more directly involved in arts and who create hundreds of thousands of jobs was not the only role of the Minister responsible for arts in Canada. He also had to reflect and champion the concerns and wishes of that community before Cabinet, I am saying that as far as immigration is concerned, I think the situation is the reverse.

Indeed I began Monday morning during a TV program in Montreal—Mathias Rioux was the host—concerning immigration when I could have taken the easy way out . . . I know it