

Business of the House

Mr. Felix Holtmann (Portage—Interlake): Mr. Speaker, I rise on that same point of order. I listened to what my colleague from the opposite side said with respect to my statement. I found it to be very much in order from what I read. Anyone who condones sexism and violence as a person should be condemned by him and his own party.

Mr. Speaker: I will consider the comments of the hon. member for Kamloops and I will review what has been said. There has been a general sense in this place of course that if it was unfair to attack someone who cannot answer for themselves and someone who is outside the Chamber that certain restraint should be exercised. I will look carefully at the matter that is raised.

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[Translation]

PRESENCE IN THE GALLERY

Mr. Speaker: I wish to draw the attention of hon. members to the presence in the gallery of the Hon. Leroy Légère, Minister of Labour for the Province of Nova Scotia.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

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[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**WEEKLY STATEMENT**

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the government House leader what the business of the House will be for the remaining part of today and Friday as well as on Monday and Tuesday.

While the government House leader is on his feet he might also be able to respond as to when the government will be introducing the legislation to allow for a national referendum to take place.

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, we momentarily intend to commence the debate on

third reading of Bill C-39 and we are hoping for completion.

There have been discussions among the parties with respect to Bill C-44 which is amendments to the Canada Labour Code. These are non-controversial and would help bring about the end to a labour dispute. I hope those can carry on and we can find some opportunity to pass that bill as soon as possible.

The outcome of tomorrow depends on the outcome of today. If C-39 has completed third reading, which I hope it will, it would be my intention to call third reading on the financial institution package.

• (1510)

On Monday and Tuesday it would be my intention to call Bill C-20, the Budget Implementation Act, 1991. There are certain provisions in there that need to be passed prior to January 1, therefore we have to get it passed through this House so the other place can consider it prior to the Christmas adjournment.

Later that week I will be engaged in the usual discussions with members opposite to see what business can be appropriately dealt with.

In terms of the plebiscite legislation, we discussed at our House leader's meeting on Tuesday the practicalities of what that bill would contain, such as who would be allowed to advertise and what groups would participate because as hon. members know our existing Elections Act may be in violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in terms of limitation on participation. We are awaiting the report of the Royal Commission on Electoral Reform, the Lortie commission, to see what recommendations can be made in respect of advertising limits, enumeration, broadcasting, availability of free time, allocation of broadcasting time, all of those practical things which are in our Election Act but which cannot be transferred over automatically to plebiscite legislation.

Those kinds of things, as I indicated in the meeting we had on Tuesday, are things we are wrestling with. I do not expect to have an answer to that prior to Christmas. As the Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs indicated to the leader of his party, we were unable to bring in any such legislation prior to Christmas.

Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley—Hants): Mr. Speaker, a point of order on House business.