

Business of the House

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I believe you have been an excellent Speaker, Mr. Speaker, and that you bring the House to order at the appropriate times. I believe the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain should apologize.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to make a point to all Members of the House, in all Parties. Effectively during each Question Period we are now losing between three and five minutes a day out of a 45-minute period to what can only be described as manifestations. Sometimes it is in the form of applause by one side or the other. Sometimes it is in the form of comments or commentaries that go beyond what would traditionally be understood as heckling. Sometimes Members keep on speaking when the Speaker is trying to say something.

I believe that the point which was made by the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans) is important, but it is not simply an issue of applause. If we observe what is happening to Question Period, we will notice that there are fewer and fewer questions and answers. I made the point when I took the chair that I do not think that is what the House wants. Therefore, I would encourage all Members, all Ministers, all questioners and all responders to please do what they can to bring the House back to what we all want—shorter questions, shorter answers and respect by everybody for everybody else.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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● (1520)

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): It is Thursday, Mr. Speaker, and the Hon. Member who usually asks me the question is here now. I thought it would be appropriate to announce the business of the House for the next week, Mr. Speaker.

As I announced yesterday, tomorrow will be the fourth allotted day in the current period of Supply and there will be a vote at the end of the day. We will be considering a motion by the New Democratic Party so that there will be a vote tomorrow at 4.45 p.m.

We will resume consideration of the report stage of Bill C-15, an Act respecting investment in Canada on Monday. Following Bill C-15, the House will begin consideration of the report stage of Bill C-24, an Act to amend the Oil Substitution and Conservation Act and the Canadian Home Insulation Act. In the event that Bill C-24 is passed, the next Bill we will deal with will be Bill C-30, an Act to amend the Bretton Woods Agreements Act which is also at report stage.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, should the House complete its consideration of Bill C-30, we will move on to Bill C-25, an Act to amend the Agricultural Stabilization Act, Monday's order of business will also apply to Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

As always, Mr. Speaker, the order of business for the House remains subject to change. The Government will continue to monitor the progress made with respect to these Bills and may announce such changes to business as may be required.

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Government House Leader if he intends to have the House stay on Bill C-15, the Investment Canada Bill, until its study is concluded by the House, if that does not happen on Monday?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, my hope is that we will make progress. As the Hon. Member knows, this Bill received very extensive consideration in the House of Commons before the Christmas break and very extensive consideration in committee. I know the Hon. Member will want to sit down with me at an early date, with the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans), to talk about the disposition of this Bill. I would be interested in hearing helpful suggestions about how soon we can get this Bill through. I think the people of Canada have spoken. They want this Bill to proceed and I know the Hon. Member and his Party will want to co-operate in the spirit of getting important legislation through the House. I assure the Hon. Member that he will be consulted and I hope we can work out a specific time frame so we can get this Bill through.

I am interested in getting this Bill through. Canadians are interested in action. They don't want to have us talk on this matter indefinitely. There has been too much talk now. We should get on with it and get Canada moving again.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

PARI MUTUEL BETTING

Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition on behalf of the members and friends of the Canadian Greyhound Association. It is a petition signed by in excess of 1,000 people and concerns the legalization of pari mutuel betting on greyhound races in Canada.

CONTROL OF PORNOGRAPHY

Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition from 32 constituents in my riding calling upon Parliament to act as quickly as possible to establish clear obscenity legislation and to enforce stricter control of pornography.

CHANGES TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

Mr. Vince Dantzer (Okanagan North): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition from the seasonal fruit indus-