

● (2120)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Hon. members have heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion? All those in favour will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): In my opinion the nays have it.

Mr. Paproski: On division.

Motion (Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West)) negated.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance) moved that Bill C-5, to amend the Currency and Exchange Act and to amend other acts in consequence thereof, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): When shall the bill be read the third time?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): By leave, now.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale) moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

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CANADA PENSION PLAN

AMENDMENT TO EXTEND DEFINITIONS

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare) moved that Bill C-49, to amend the Canada Pension Plan, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs, be concurred in.

Mr. Alexander: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, we have proceeded with our business so expeditiously that I scarcely had time to regain my seat before Your Honour put the motion for concurrence on Bill C-49. Although there are no amendments to discuss at the report stage, I and some of my colleagues wish to speak on the bill. The hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald) who is not here this evening wishes to make her contribution to the debate. Actually I did not know we would make such good progress.

Canada Pension Plan

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): When shall the bill be read the third time?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Tomorrow.

An hon. Member: Now.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Shall I put the third reading motion?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I think what we are doing should be made clear. I do not mind our taking this bill tonight, but it was not understood that it would come forward this evening. We just seem to be slipping into it, as it were. The minister is not here, and the parliamentary secretary is not here.

Mr. Alexander: And the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands is not here.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Will the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Goodale) tell us what is going on?

An hon. Member: There are no amendments.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): That is right. There is no amendment. We have dealt with the report stage and could go on to third reading now. But that was not the plan for tonight. If the plan has been changed we should have been advised. There has been lots of consultation today; it has worked well. But I do not like our proceeding without consultation.

Mr. Goodale: Mr. Speaker, I do not think it is a matter of proceeding without consultation. I think the House has made perhaps unprecedented progress, which has led us to this evening's remarkable situation.

It was indicated earlier today in the statement concerning the order of business that, after we completed considering the Auditor General's bill, which we did earlier this evening, we would consider two financial bills, C-18 and C-5, both of which hon. members dealt with expeditiously this evening and both of which proceeded through third reading. As indicated earlier, the next item of business was the consideration of Bill C-49, the bill to amend the Canada Pension Plan. Many of us did not anticipate reaching it this evening; however, we have reached it and could use the 15 minutes remaining before the taking of deferred divisions in a constructive consideration of Bill C-49. The minister's parliamentary secretary is now present and in a position to proceed. Of course what we do in the next 15 minutes will not necessarily determine what we shall do tomorrow morning or evening. Because of our remarkable progress, that question would have to be settled by further