

Oral Questions

Mr. Nowlan: I appreciate—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member wants to ask a supplementary question. Obviously, he was asking a question. This was done with the indulgence of the House. If the hon. member wants to ask a supplementary question, the House must allow it.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member would not mind waiting until tomorrow. I will give him some kind of priority so that he can ask all his supplementaries then.

Mr. Nowlan: I rise on a question of privilege, in a sense. You have me out of the way today but I do not think I am going to be here tomorrow.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nowlan: I know that makes you happy. However, since I have started, may I just finish with one supplementary?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Obviously when the Chair attempts to be helpful and lenient to hon. members we get into so many difficulties that there is not much inducement or encouragement for the Chair to do this.

Mr. Nowlan: I rise on a question of privilege.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nowlan: I quite agree with the dilemma and the difficulty in which the Chair finds itself. I do not mind getting up all during the question period for the exercise and training for the Olympics. I am prepared to accept that the same as all members are prepared to accept it, but I am not going to sit here—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nowlan: —and have other than the House leaders ask the government House leader to try in a normal way to outline the business of the House for the following week. I am not going to have other Members of Parliament rise on false points of order or questions of privilege to get their pet bills laid on the table when I have been trying to get Your Honour's eye for two weeks.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

[Mr. Nowlan.]

GOVERNMENT ORDERS**BUSINESS OF SUPPLY**

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (A), 1972-73—MOTION FOR CONCURRENCE IN VOTE L12a—DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

The House resumed, from Wednesday, February 7, consideration of the motion of Mr. Drury:

That Vote L12a in the amount of \$350,000,000 of the Department of Finance for Winter Capital Projects Fund—Loans in Supplementary Estimates (A) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1973, be concurred in.

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I made some remarks on this supplementary estimate yesterday. I indicated to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) that I, and I expect most other members, are not opposed to developing an extensive program that will affect a large number of people who are out of work this winter and will be out of work next winter and the winter following through Winter Capital Projects Funds. The funds for these projects have been distributed by the provinces and administered by the municipalities. Not being in the form of a bill—

Mr. Speaker: Order. May we have order, please? There are so many conversations going on in the House at the moment that it is highly unfair to the member who has the floor. Can we have order, please? I suggest to hon. members that these numerous conversations might take place outside the House. The business of the House is now continuing, and the hon. member for Timiskaming has the floor.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, I am not surprised that some members are not particularly interested in this subject. It only affects unemployed people and municipalities with very high unemployment. It also affects a program that will be in effect for the next three years. Therefore, the subject matter probably is not important to many members, although some of them may become unemployed much faster than they anticipate. It is interesting to look around the House. Although I have not been here very long, most members who were here when I arrived and many who came subsequently have become unemployed. Perhaps some of these members should look at this proposition as well.

This is an important piece of legislation. It involves a long-term program. This estimate contemplates a program that will extend over the next three years. When I first came to this House, I supported the proposition of emergency assistance to gold mines. The emergency had developed a few years previous. During this session, we will be asked to extend for another period of time that same emergency legislation. I presume that unless something drastic happens in this country, such as the election of the New Democratic Party—

• (1520)

An hon. Member: That would be drastic, all right.

Mr. Peters: I am not saying this will happen. But unless it does, it is very likely a critical situation will be faced in