

Business of the House

that on Tuesday, September 17, 1991, at 10 a.m., immediately after Routine Proceedings the House shall begin its study at committee of the whole of the said bill and that all questions to dispose of the said bill at that stage and the report stage be put without further debate or amendment no later than 10 p.m.;

that on Wednesday, September 18, 1991, immediately following Routine Proceedings, the House shall begin consideration of Bill C-29 at third reading, and that all questions to dispose of the said bill at that stage be put without further debate or amendment no later than 10 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, the Standing Order states that in relation to any matter that the government considers to be of an urgent nature, a minister of the Crown may do as I have just done. Mr. Speaker, I do not think I have to remind the House that back to work legislation is by its nature urgent. Since 1966 it has occurred nine times. On every occasion but one, there has been agreement between opposite sides of the House to waive the usual time, the usual notices, the usual delays that are part of the legislation and to treat it with some dispatch.

In this particular instance we have reached an impasse. There are innocent third parties being hurt desperately. The grain farmers in the west, in particular, are being hurt. The Canadian Wheat Board estimates the loss to farmers at about \$36 million a week and 25 per cent of the farmers are at risk of being driven off their farms this year.

We know that part of PSAC has been designated as essential service. In fact, what has happened is that the picket lines have not allowed the members designated as essential service to get to their jobs so they can perform the services. That has resulted in airlines being unable to fly. The airlines because of the drop in traffic may have to lay off some 2,500 people. Air Canada says they do not know at this time how much money they have lost because of the PSAC disruptions at Pearson Airport and other airports, but they know it is millions of dollars and more people will be laid off.

The urgency seems to me to be self-evident. The nature of the way the strike is being run with people being hurt, and the essential services personnel not being able to perform because people are precluded illegally by strikers from going to their place of work. We see line-ups at the borders; factories having to close because under the auto pact the integration of plants on

both sides of the border has meant that there is a very short delay between the time when parts stop arriving and the plant must shut down. Innocent third parties who are not a part of the union, who are taxpayers, are losing their jobs, losing money while this political battle is going on with Daryl Bean.

In view of that circumstance and in view of the fact, as I have pointed out, that since 1966 on nine occasions we have had back to work legislation and on every one of those occasions but one there has been a willingness shown by members of Parliament on both sides of the House to recognize the inevitability of that action. The legislation will pass. Delaying it only puts more financial burden on the population. It only causes more harm and more disruption.

We are not asking for something that is exceptional. It has occurred in the past on many, many occasions. I would ask that we have an opportunity to treat our employees better than PSAC has treated its own.

An hon. member: Oh, nobody believes you.

Mr. Andre: In *The Toronto Star* of April 19—

Mr. Speaker: Just a moment. Perhaps, I can be of assistance to the House. I recognize the hon. member for Kamloops is rising on a point of order and I will hear him at the appropriate moment.

Just so that we know what we are doing here, the hon. minister has risen under Standing Order 53, and I am going to read it to the House.

53(1) In relation to any matter that the government considers to be of an urgent nature, a Minister of the Crown may, at any time when the Speaker is in the Chair, propose a motion to suspend any Standing or other Order of this House relating to the need for notice and to the hours and days of sitting.

(2) After the Minister has stated reasons for the urgency of such a motion, the Speaker shall propose the question to the House.

In my view, the hon. member has given his reasons for the urgency and the hon. minister has fulfilled the obligations under paragraph 2.

It is now my obligation to put the motion to the House and when done, I will, of course, hear a point of order. That has been the practice we have been following in these matters. I am going to hear the point of order before any further debate takes place.