Air Canada

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder if I might take this opportunity, because of the amended procedures during the short term with respect to the conduct of the adjournment debate proceedings to 6 p.m. instead of 10 p.m., of informing the House, pursuant to Standing Order 40, that the questions to be raised on the adjournment motion at 6 p.m. are as follows: the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie)—Industry; the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Friesen)—Customs; the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp)—Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

AIR CANADA ACT, 1977

MEASURE RESPECTING REORGANIZATION OF AIR CANADA

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-3, respecting the reorganization of Air Canada, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre) moved:

Motion No. 1-

That Bill C-3, an act respecting the reorganization of Air Canada, be amended in clause 7 by striking out lines 6 to 9 at page 4.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. When we were dealing with the question of carrying business over from the last session of this parliament to this session, an understanding was reached among the various parties that we would proceed with the bills at the stage at which they are. Unfortunately, the amendments that were on the order paper—I am referring to one dated July 11, 1977—have not been set down.

There have been discussions among the Minister of Transport (Mr. Lang) and representatives of our party indicating that all those motions which stood in the name of the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) could be put down today as if they had been set down in the ordinary course, and would be considered during debate on Bill C-3. I understand that to be the case. I would ask the agreement of the minister for unanimous consent to do that, so that the essence of our understanding in the last session may be carried out.

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, it would be agreeable to us to give consent to allow those motions to be heard. Naturally, I am interested in hearing the further wisdom of hon. members on the subject of the Air Canada bill. If it is more convenient to

do so with regard to these motions, I am pleased to do so. I am given to understand that we may be able to dispose of these matters very quickly.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I take it that the sense of the agreement is that this bill, having been carried over from the last session, will be reinstated in the same position as it was in the previous session, and that it would be inequitable to restore the bill without restoring the report stage amendments that were outstanding at the time the restoration was made.

Therefore, I take it there is unanimous consent that the motion be now put that the report stage amendments outstanding at the time the bill was ordered restored, or at the conclusion of consideration in the last session, be now reinstated along with the report stage of the bill, in order that they can now be taken into consideration. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Agreed and so ordered.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, there is one further matter with respect to House business. We are now proceeding with Bill C-3. In view of the motions that were put down today by the Minister of Finance, could I ask the deputy House leader of the government about the legislative program? Does the bill that flows therefrom now take priority in terms of House business, as indicated earlier? It would be very helpful if we knew that, and when it would be taken up the first time.

Mr. Cafik: Mr. Speaker, in response to the question, I had informal discussions with the hon. member to the effect that today we will deal with the Air Canada bill, Bill C-3, followed by Bill C-8, the Canada Labour Code; then we would move to Bill C-7, CALURA. The ways and means motion tabled today will be dealt with on Thursday, I think, subject to some adjustments. I will speak to the hon. member and other House leaders later if there is any change.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I refrained from taking part in the point of order discussion that arose a few moments ago because I have no objection to last session's report stage amendments being reinstated. However, I understood it the other way. I thought it was required that we put our report stage amendments back on the order paper, but apparently I am the only one who did.

Mr. Mazankowski: You probably never left the place.

(1522)

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, according to the order paper it was filed on October 21, and by then most hon. members were back here too. However, I am also caught by surprise because I thought we would be debating the bill to amend the Canada Elections Act this afternoon; but here we are on Bill C-3 and in particular we are on my report stage amendment, which is one that was put down in