

Would he also confirm for members of the House as to what the business will be next week. As I understand it, he intends to proceed with the report stage and third reading on Monday and Tuesday of Bill C-110, namely the fixed link. It is my understanding that on Wednesday he will proceed with an adjournment motion at 3 p.m. Can he confirm that for members of the House?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Madam Speaker, the House leader of the Liberal Party has it all right except the precise time of the adjournment motion next Wednesday.

I would like to discuss with House leaders opposite in terms of what business might be conducted on Wednesday. It would be our hope to move the adjournment debate that day.

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NORTHUMBERLAND STRAIT CROSSING ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, an agreement could not be reached under the provisions of Standing Order 78(1) or (2) with respect to report stage and third reading of Bill C-110, an act respecting the Northumberland Strait Crossing, and under the provisions of Standing Order (78(3), I give notice of my intention to move a time allocation motion at the next sitting of the House for the purpose of allotting a specified number of days or hours for the consideration and disposal of proceedings at the said stages.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Madam Speaker, the government House leader indicated that it will be his intention some time on Wednesday to proceed with an adjournment motion. Perhaps that will have to be done on Thursday or Friday. I did not hear specifically. Maybe he wants to negotiate this further.

With regard to Bill C-128, the pornography bill, which as you know our critic in the Liberal Party is supporting,

Privilege

we were wondering whether or not the government can give any indication as to the time frame in which it wishes to bring this bill forward so that we can proceed on this expeditiously.

• (1505)

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): That is certainly one of the bills on which it is my understanding the work of the committee is going on successfully. There is a fair degree of unanimity. It would certainly be my intention that once committee work is completed on that to talk to colleagues opposite to see whether in fact it is desirable to proceed with completion of that bill before the summer adjournment.

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PRIVILEGE

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS—SPEAKER'S RULING

Madam Deputy Speaker: I am now ready to rule on the matter raised by the hon. member for Humber—St. Barbe—Baie Verte on Friday, June 4, 1993. I was hoping the hon. member would be in the House. He was told but unfortunately he was not here yesterday and he is not here today.

In his submission, the hon. member stated that in one of the lobbies just before Question Period he received a letter from the solicitors of Mr. Tim Ralfe giving notice of their intention to reserve the right to bring action for libel against the hon. member. The letter, which I have examined, demands that a full and unconditional apology and retraction be delivered by the hon. member for a verbal and written statement about Mr. Ralfe which the letter claims was made by the hon. member outside the precinct of Parliament on June 3, 1993. It is the contention of the hon. member for Humber—St. Barbe—Baie Verte that the receipt of this letter in the precincts of the House constitutes a question of privilege. He has argued that the action of Mr. Ralfe and his solicitors and the apparent familiarity of the government House leader with the letter constitutes an attempt to intimidate him and prevent him from performing his duties.

I have reviewed the situation re-examining what was said during Question Period and during the discussion of this matter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those hon. members who made interventions.