

Small Businesses Loans Act

I think we have a right to have our critic speak on the Bill, as soon as we can get him back here. We received notice of a Bill that was printed yesterday. It would be a much different matter if this Bill was not numbered Bill C-144. If it was numbered C-28 and had been on the Order Paper, I could call my critic, who is off on other important parliamentary business, and say to him; "How about this Bill that has been printed for some time, can we go ahead with it?" It is the rush to judgment—

An Hon. Member: It was printed today.

Mr. Pinard: He is paid \$60,000 a year and he should be here. He is overpaid.

An Hon. Member: The ink is hardly dry on this Bill.

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I listened with great interest to what the Hon. Member just said.

Mr. Huntington: You just got here.

Mr. Ouellet: I just want to remind the Hon. Member that if in fact he has the disposition to send to committee stage a Bill that has been on the Order Paper for a long time, I am wondering why, in the spirit of co-operation, Bill C-12, the bankruptcy legislation that has been on the Order Paper for many, many months, that has been studied and discussed in the House on numerous occasions, is not allowed to go the Committee. One of his backbenchers earlier this week made that very suggestion, that the Bill be referred to the Committee. Maybe the Opposition House Leader would be ready to do this right now.

Mr. Mazankowski: You have run out the clock.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I would be pleased to reply to the Minister. He will know that this very important Bill, C-12, had two days' debate in May of 1981. That was not the biggie. The biggie was in November, 1982, when it was brought on for part of a speech. In fact, the Hon. Member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers) still has the floor for that part of the speech. It has not been brought on at all in 1983. Since the Government House Leader is in the House, maybe the two Ministers could get together and the Government House Leader might be prevailed upon to bring it forward since, as I understand it—and I have not been at this job all that long—the Government controls the business of the House.

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): A question of privilege, at one minute after five?

● (1700)

Mr. Cousineau: I rise on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): It is five o'clock. As a courtesy I will recognize the Hon. Member, but he should be brief.

Some Hon. Members: Five o'clock.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I now have indications from Members that they wish me to see the clock. Since that request is made, I have to do so.

It being five o'clock, I do now leave the chair until Monday morning at eleven o'clock.

At 5 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.