

Business of the House

minister that when a bill something like this one was passed in this house and when the responsible parties who felt that they came under the provisions of a similar bill asked for the provisions to be carried out they found that excuses were made that the bill did not provide for what was said to be provided for. The case was taken to the Supreme Court of Canada and counsel who was arguing for the complainant cited the promise made by the former prime minister of Canada regarding the terms contained in the measure which was before the court. A judge of the supreme court promptly told the counsel for the complainant that he was not concerned about the promise of the prime minister or anybody else but that he was concerned with what was contained in the act and what was the law. Hence the case was lost. We now find ourselves in the same position. If we had it laid down in this act, in law, that we could participate fully in the benefits derived from this act, we should be extremely happy.

Without taking up any more time, I ask the minister and the government to reconsider their decision and to do as I asked them to do a few days ago, namely so to word this bill before it passes the house that we in Newfoundland who are desirous of participating fully in the benefits of this act may do so. I hope they will reconsider their decision. If they do that our argument will be over and we shall be very happy to participate fully in the measures provided in this bill.

Mr. H. M. Batten (Humber-St. George's): Mr. Speaker, may I call it ten o'clock?

Mr. Speaker: Does the house wish to curtail its debate on this bill? It is not yet ten o'clock.

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Lesage: Could the hon. member not finish?

Mr. Batten: If you allow me five or six minutes, yes.

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Lesage: If the hon. member could be given five minutes, he could finish.

Mr. Batten: Mr. Speaker, the comments which I would make on second reading of Bill No. 244 are similar to those which I made at the resolution stage. I will say again that I am going to support this legislation because I believe it is good legislation. Because I think it is good, I want my province to be able to partake of the benefits that will come to the Atlantic provinces because of this bill being passed by this parliament.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Ten o'clock.

Mr. Batten: May I call it ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Lesage: Why do you do that?

Mr. Speaker: There seems to be a certain pressure to call it ten o'clock, although my eyesight tells me that it is only one minute to ten. All right, the hon. member may call it ten o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Batten the debate was adjourned.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Chevrier: May I ask the house leader what the business is for tomorrow?

Mr. Green: Tomorrow we shall commence with this measure which is No. 8 on today's order paper; then we shall take No. 5 on today's order paper, second reading of the bill to provide for the stabilization of the prices of agricultural commodities; then item No. 2, second reading of the bill to provide for annual vacations with pay; and item No. 4, an act to implement an agreement between Canada and Australia for the avoidance of double taxation.

Then on Wednesday, as requested by the hon. member on Saturday, we shall take the estimates of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, followed by the estimates of the Department of National Revenue which will be commenced, again in order to meet the wishes of hon. members, with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation item.

Mr. Chevrier: I wonder whether the house leader would not give consideration to dealing with items 2, 4 and 5 tomorrow and leaving item No. 8, which is the matter under discussion now, until a later date. The reason is that some of the members are tied up at the convention tomorrow and they would like to take part in the discussion in committee. I remind the leader of the house of the statement made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Diefenbaker) in which he said in effect that he would be glad to give careful consideration to any request that would be made. In fact, he went farther than that when he made the motion. As reported at page 3187 of *Hansard* he said:

—I move this resolution, and say to my hon. friends opposite that if during the progress of the convention there are any matters on the agenda of parliament which they feel are of such a controversial nature that they ought not to be discussed in the absence of any of the members of the opposition, I shall do my part to comply with any requests I may receive. It is in that spirit that I move this motion.