

Business of the House

Government House
Ottawa

December 11, 1980

Madam,

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Antonio Lamer, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 11th day of December, at 5.00 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be,
Madam,
Your obedient servant,
Esmond Butler
Secretary to the Governor General

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[English]

PETITION

MR. MAYER—CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY—CLOSING OF
MINIOTA SUBDIVISION

Madam Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has laid upon the Table the thirty-sixth report of the Clerk of Petitions stating that he has examined the petition presented by the hon. member for Portage-Marquette (Mr. Mayer) and finds that it meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Madam Speaker, I wonder if I could ask the government House leader if he could inform the House as to the business he contemplates between now and the adjournment for the Christmas recess.

Perhaps while he is on his feet he might indicate to the House when he feels that the adjournment motion might be brought and dealt with, and specifically, if it is possible and if he is in that position, the length of the adjournment contemplated by the government.

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, later on today we will start debate on second reading of Bill C-48. I understand that tomorrow we will be able to deal with the report stage and the third reading stage of Bill S-2, which has just been reported from the standing committee. I understand that we will be able to get through two stages of that bill provided there is only one speaker per party. Following that we will resume debate on Bill C-34 concerning judges.

[Translation]

With regard to the business of the House for next week, on Monday, we will start the debate on the bill concerning fiscal transfers to the provinces, hoping to obtain quick passage; in any event, next week we shall want to continue the debate initiated today on Bill C-48, namely the Canada Oil and Gas Act, with a view to referring it to a standing committee of the House before the Christmas break. In addition next Friday we

hope to spend the day completing whatever items I have just mentioned that might still be pending for some reason or other.

We have also agreed, with regard to a bill to be brought in as a result of three notices of ways and means motions dealing with amendments to the Customs Tariff Act, to refer it, after hearing one spokesman for each party, to a standing committee of the House rather than studying it in Committee of the Whole in view of its highly technical nature. To that end, I have here an order of the House confirming the agreement which you will kindly allow me to read, that we might know where we stand for next week, seeing that, contrary to what we discussed earlier, it will not be possible to proceed tomorrow in that regard; however, we could do so at any time next week since it can be done very quickly.

[English]

Madam Speaker, after consultations with all parties I would like to call ways and means proceedings 6, 7 and 16. In the latter case I understand there is unanimous consent. I also understand that there is unanimous consent that the bill based thereon, the bill relating to the customs tariff, after second reading be referred not to the Committee of the Whole as is usually done in such cases but, because of the unusual complexity of the bill, be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

[Translation]

I understand, Madam Speaker, that when I have finished my remarks, you will seek the required unanimous consent. With regard to the Christmas break, since the question has been put to me, naturally if the work I have just outlined proceeds with due dispatch, we should be able to consider seriously an adjournment toward the end of next week or, at the latest, early in the following week. But I hope we can make it Friday next week. As for the date of our return, we had discussions on the matter this morning; I feel it would be important to have another meeting early next week when, depending on the progress achieved, we will have a much better idea of whether we should come back before or around January 12.

[English]

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Madam Speaker, with respect to the proposed notice, my friend has indicated there is consent with respect to that to which he referred. We can certainly deal with that. That has been discussed and agreed upon.

Mr. Knowles: Madam Speaker, there is agreement to the request for the introduction of the customs tariff bills today, and there is also agreement that the complicated one, after it has been read the second time some day next week, be sent to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.