

*Adjournment Motion*

Chairman of Committees shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

He said: Mr. Speaker, there are one or two points I wish to make with regard to this motion. I hope that we will be able to have Royal Assent later today. In order to reach that objective, the House will have to agree to waive the normal rules with respect to Bill C-205, to amend the Regional Development Incentives Act. My short comment on this motion may give the House an opportunity to decide unanimously to allow this bill to be discussed today and to move it through all its stages. It is my expectation that we will have Royal Assent, depending upon the other place, shortly after we have dealt with that bill.

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I think the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) has indicated the hope of hon. members that we will be able to proceed with this bill through all its stages today, allowing adequate opportunity for debate and discussion, so I have no objection to the proposition.

I must point out, however, that this is a bill of considerable magnitude and importance, parts of which have not been acceptable. It is hoped that when bills of this nature and character are brought forward by the government they will be tabled for first reading so that members of all parties who have a deep interest and concern will have an opportunity to examine them, make their case and make adequate preparation for second reading and committee hearings. This did not take place with this particular bill. I must file this caveat and make this request of the government. If the proceedings of this House are to be conducted properly, opposition members, private members, will need to have adequate time to examine the details of the legislation.

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, we are happy to agree to the motion of the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) regarding the time of adjournment and the length of the recess. We are also prepared to give consent to the necessary waiving of the relevant Standing Orders so that we can deal with order number 47 and pass the bill through all its remaining stages today. I assume that this includes, of course, the right to deal today with the report stage amendment which is on the order paper, and that, in the spirit of co-operation which is being displayed, any other adjustments which are necessary will be agreed to.

**Mr. Peters:** Including other amendments.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. members have heard the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** I gather that in addition to the terms of the motion there was a suggestion by the President of the Privy Council, the details of which I shall not repeat. Is it agreed that we proceed with the consideration of the legislation in question as suggested by the President of the Privy Council?

[Mr. MacEachen.]

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**An hon. Member:** No.

**Mr. Speaker:** This requires the unanimous consent of the House. There does not appear to be unanimous agreement and in these circumstances the only thing we can do is to proceed with the motion as it has been put by the President of the Privy Council. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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**BANKRUPTCY**

TABLEING OF REPORT OF STUDY COMMITTEE—  
STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to table in the two official languages the report of the study committee on bankruptcy and insolvency legislation together with two statements being issued herewith.

The report contains proposals for changes and recommends that a new Bankruptcy Act be enacted to deal in a comprehensive way with both commercial and non-commercial bankruptcy. The government, for its part, has examined the report and is in general accord with the recommendations of the committee.

The revision of our bankruptcy and insolvency laws ranks high in the list of priorities. I should like to introduce a bill as soon as possible, and I should therefore appreciate it if interested associations and organizations and the public in general could give me the benefit of their views on the report and their suggestions before the end of January next so that those views can be taken into account in our drafting work.

In conclusion, I want to express the thanks and gratitude of the government to the members of the committee, Messrs. Tassé, Honsberger, Carignan and Landry, for the work they have done in preparing this report.

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the minister for providing us with a copy of the report and an indication of his remarks in sufficient time for us to be able to comment with a little more precision on the subject matter.

The report, as we see it, makes an extensive review of bankruptcy legislation as it is applied not only in Canada but elsewhere. It draws attention to the fact that the Parliament of Canada has exclusive legislative power in the field of bankruptcy and insolvency, and that these two subjects have been broadly interpreted by the courts. As the report further comments, in the operation of federal legislation in this area Parliament has come into conflict with the exclusive legislative competence of provincial legislatures, particularly in connection with the administration of justice, property and civil rights and other matters. Some provinces have taken steps to deal with such questions involving insolvency, such as the