

Prisoners of War

Mr. Cafik: I am not sure I have completely understood the hon. member. Am I correct in understanding that between now and six o'clock members will be prepared to pass this bill in all its stages? If so, I am prepared to call the bill now.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Provided there could be some voluntary division of the time available so that a few words might be said by spokesmen for each of the parties, we would be prepared to do it now.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, that proposal sounds very sensible to me. We sometimes waste time but, in this instance we want to save time. As for our party, we agree with proceeding the way the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) suggested, provided of course the time is well divided.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: The House seems disposed to let the measure go through all stages between now and six o'clock provided there is some division of the time available to allow a representative of each party to make some contribution. If the bill is ready, perhaps it could be called as the next order of government business. Of course, the bill was introduced for first reading earlier this day so it would require unanimous consent at each stage before going further. In particular, it would require unanimous consent to change the motion so as to refer the bill to the committee of the whole House.

Is there unanimous consent to proceed with the bill at this time?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The motion, then, will be presented accordingly by unanimous consent.

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COMPENSATION FOR FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR ACT

AMENDMENT TO EXTEND SCOPE OF BENEFITS

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs) moved that Bill C-27, to amend the Compensation for Former Prisoners of War Act, be read the second time.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to speak today on a bill designed to improve the lot of members of the armed forces who were prisoners of war during the first world war and others who were later evaders in enemy or enemy occupied territory. The House will agree that Canada owes a debt of gratitude to the men and women who answered the call of their country and served so gallantly for the preservation of our freedom.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Messrs.

Portelance
Poulin
Prud'homme
Railton
Reid
Roberts
Robinson

Rompkey
Roy
(Laval)
Sauvé (Mrs.)
Savard
Sharp
Smith
(Saint-Jean)

Stollery
Trudeau
Turner
Wood
Yanakis
Young—108.

NAYS

Messrs.

Alkenbrack
Andre
(Calgary Centre)
Baker
(Grenville-Carleton)
Baldwin
Beaudoin
Benjamin
Blackburn
Brisco
Broadbent
Cadieu
Caouette
(Témiscamingue)
Clark
(Rocky Mountain)
Clarke
(Vancouver Quadra)
Cossitt
Crouse
Darling
Dick
Diefenbaker
Dionne
(Kamouraska)
Douglas
(Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands)
Ellis
Elzinga
Epp

Firth
Gauthier
(Roberval)
Grafftey
Halliday
Hnatyshyn
Hogan
Huntington
Hurlburt
Jarvis
Jones
Knowles
(Winnipeg North Centre)
Knowles
(Norfolk-Haldimand)
Korchinski
Lambert
(Bellechasse)
Laprise
La Salle
Lawrence
Leggatt
MacDonald
(Egmont)
Marshall
Masniuk
McKenzie
McKinley
McKinnon

Munro
(Esquimalt-Saanich)
Murta
Neil
Nielsen
Nystrom
Orlikow
Paproski
Patterson
Peters
Pigott (Mrs.)
Ritchie
Roche
Rodriguez
Rynard
Saltsman
Schellenberger
Schumacher
Skoreyko
Smith
(Churchill)
Stevens
Stewart
(Marquette)
Symes
Towers
Wagner
Wenman
Whiteway
Whittaker
Wise
Woolliams—76.

● (1722)

Mr. Speaker: I therefore declare the motion carried.

Bill read the third time and passed.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): On a point or order, Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions with respect to the bill standing in the name of the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) to amend the Compensation for Former Prisoners of War Act. This is a bill which has the support of all parties in the House. Would the acting government House leader be prepared to undertake to go ahead with this bill on Friday, the next government day? We would undertake in turn to deal with the measure in all three stages. The hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall), the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) and others have been pressing for this bill for a long time and we are prepared to give it three readings—

Some hon. Members: Now!

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Members on the government benches say "Now!". I presume the minister is ready to proceed. In that case we too are ready to proceed.