

Business of the House

before he consults with the new Liberal leader. We can see what happens Monday morning.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, the business of the House for next week will be Bill C-9, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service. Priority will be given to Bills that are at report stage. Therefore, the back-up legislation will be Bill C-40, the Old Age Security Act, whereby the Government of Canada wants to increase the GIS \$50 a month by the end of the year. I think the new leader will want to support that kind of legislation and will be pleased to debate it in the House and see the Tory Opposition reluctance regarding social policies in this country.

The other back-up legislation will be Bill C-37, the mortgage protection plan. I also doubt that any Liberal leader would be inclined to withdraw such legislation that intends to protect home owners against high interest rates. The third back-up Bill will be the Western Grain Stabilization Act. Again, my hon. colleague should know that there is no Liberal leader who would not be glad to continue supporting the farmers in this country, especially the western farmers.

Therefore, the business for next week will be Bill C-9, followed by Bill C-40, Bill C-37 and Bill C-33, all good Liberal legislation designed to help old age people, the western farmers, and home owners with high interest rates.

We all know that this morning we agreed in the House to sit extended hours after next weekend. I just want to seize this opportunity to thank sincerely the House leaders of the two Opposition Parties for their co-operation. It is only the second time that we have had an opportunity to live with the new rules. The first year we were unable to get an agreement in advance on the extended hours. We had to move a motion, debate it and vote on it.

This year, thanks to the co-operation of my colleagues on the other side, it was possible for us to agree in advance. Therefore, we will be able to plan business in a reasonable way, sitting from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and sitting from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesdays without any interruption for the lunchtime hour. We will also be able to sit on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. without interruption. Therefore, we will be sitting over 28 additional hours during the last 10 sitting days before summer adjournment.

I thank my colleagues for their co-operation and I hope that together we will be able to show that we do not need the threat of sitting during the summer, that we can live with the parliamentary calendar and at the same time allow Parliament to be productive in those last 10 sitting days.

We will come back on September 10. Whatever Bills we are not able to deal with before the end of June, Parliament will still be well alive come the fall and I am sure that we will be able to deal with all other matters.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the statement of the business with respect to next week and through to September 10, although I do not believe him for a moment. We may

be back on September 10 or September 12, but it will be with a new Progressive Conservative Government.

Seriously, I take it that the Government House Leader is, in effect, suggesting that the senior citizens, the people who are looking for legislation with respect to mortgage protection and the western grain farmers will be held hostage by the security Bill. Until such time as that legislation is passed; these items will not be brought forward by the Government House Leader. He will want to have report stage of the security Bill out of the way before these other items are dealt with expeditiously by the House.

● (1510)

The Government House Leader will remember that it was only by virtue of the intense pressure put on by the Progressive Conservative Party in this House that the western grain farmer got any attention from this Government. The senior citizens had this Bill brought forward because of our urgings and the fact that we dragged the Liberals kicking and screaming through the legislative timetable.

Can the Government House Leader tell us whether or not he is going to await the passage of a very controversial Bill affecting the civil liberties of Canadians before dealing with the other items he has mentioned? It seems to me those items are matters of which he could get quick disposition. He has his priorities in reverse. He should have the Bills that will be of benefit to the people of Canada passed expeditiously. He should not have us arguing about a Bill which seriously and negatively affects the civil liberties of Canadians. He knows this Bill will be involved in a lot of serious and justified debate on the floor of the House of Commons.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member knows very well that Standing Order 22 requires that the order of business be decided by the Government. That is exactly what we have done. During the last four and a half years we have been able to get through Parliament some 200 pieces of legislation, among which were major reforms: the patriation of the Constitution, the Charter of Rights, the Crow rate—

Some Hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Pinard: —the National Energy Program—

Some Hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Pinard: —and a lot of measures, 200 of them. Parliamentary reform is also one.

I would like to be very specific on something. I take the Hon. Member's remark very seriously. In the last ten sitting days we were able to get through Parliament in all stages some eight to ten pieces of legislation. It would have been possible and it is still possible to get through all stages the Bills to which my hon. friend refers. If he had wanted, the senior citizens, the western farmers and the home owners would now be able to see their legislation in place. That is not the case because the Hon. Member's Party has refused to agree to pass