

Government Orders

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Motions No. 3 and No. 10 will be voted on separately. An affirmative vote on Motion No. 8(A) obviates the question being put on Motion No. 9. A negative vote on Motion No. 8 necessitates the question being put on Motion No. 9.

The first question is on Motion No. 3. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The motion is defeated.

The next question is on Motion No. 10. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The next question is on Motion No. 8(A). Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Because of the result of the vote on Motion No. 8A there is no need to vote on Motion No. 9.

[Translation]

On a point of order, the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of State (Science and Technology) (Mrs. Duplessis).

Mrs. Duplessis: Mr. Speaker, on this side of the House we do not support motion no 9. Even if it is not put to a vote, motion no 9 as introduced is not acceptable to the government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Anyway, it is not before the House.

• (1300)

[English]

Motions Nos. 6 and 7 will be debated together but voted on separately.

Hon. Alan Redway (for The Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology) moved:

Motion No. 6

That Bill C-16 be amended in clause 19 in the French version by striking out lines 19 and 20 at page 7 and substituting the following therefor:

“présidence du comité à l'un des membres de celui-ci” —

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there unanimous consent to allow Mr. Manley to move the motion on behalf of Mr. Pagtakhan?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. John Manley (for Mr. Pagtakhan) moved:

Motion No. 7

That Bill C-16 be amended in clause 22 by striking out line 5 at page 8 and substituting the following therefor:

“place as the Minister may determine. Further, the Board shall meet at such time and place as may be determined by the Chair and not less than once a year to review the activities of the Agency in terms of the overall mandate of the Agency”.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the House for its co-operation, which allowed me to present this motion on behalf of the member for Winnipeg North, who was unable to return to Ottawa for the debate today.

This motion is to create an independent board, a board that will meet at least once a year to discuss matters of importance with respect to the operation of the agency. It is unfortunate that the board, although it is created for good reason, is there and left only to meet at the bequest of the minister whenever he happens to feel so inclined. The intent of the motion is to ensure that at least once per year this board convenes.

In addition, this provides me the opportunity to make some brief comments on the agency, and to express our concern that it has taken so long to finally come to the point where this agency is coming into existence. We hear so often of the government's concerns about financial matters and deficits, that we sometimes wonder whether its entire policy is not driven by fear of the deficit. Here is a very worth-while proposition that, when it is created, is going to streamline some government operations. Maybe in the long run, in spite of some of the initial start-up costs, it will actually save the government some money. In its deficit of ideas and