

Federal Court

munications and Postmaster General. In December 1969, the minister tabled a study entitled "A Blueprint for Change", and in tabling this document he stated that a white paper revealing the government's plans for a thorough reorganization of the department would be released at an early date. Can the hon. gentleman advise the House when this white paper will be tabled in view of continuing widespread concern with regard to postal services in Canada?

Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Minister of Communications): I suggest the hon. member should put that question to my colleague who is in charge of postal operations.

An hon. Member: Aren't you glad?

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Might I be permitted to ask the Leader of the House what the business is likely to be during the coming week?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): The following is a tentative outline of government business for the coming week. We shall continue today with government order No. 11, the Federal Court bill, and when that is completed we shall resume debate on government order No. 9, Bill C-4 with respect to the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act. When that is finished we shall take up government order No. 10, Bill C-5, with respect to Deuterium of Canada Limited.

On Monday, we shall probably consider government order 18, Bill C-174 establishing the tax review board, and follow that with government order No. 21, Bill C-177 respecting co-operative associations. It is expected that next Thursday will be an opposition day under the auspices, I believe, of the New Democratic Party.

Mr. Baldwin: Is it the intention of the government to bring in, and commence debate on, a bill to replace the War Measures Act within the next week?

Mr. MacEachen: I stated that this was a tentative outline; it may be we shall be in a position next week to interrupt this business and deal with the measure the hon. member has mentioned.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS**FEDERAL COURT**

MEASURE RESPECTING CONSTITUTION, JURISDICTION, ADMINISTRATION, ETC.

The House resumed from Wednesday, October 28, consideration of Bill C-172, respecting the Federal Court of Canada, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

[Mr. Southam.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. As hon. members know, there was a discussion yesterday in the House in connection with two of the motions which were under consideration. They were submitted for the consideration of the House in the name of the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams). The suggestion was made by the Chair that there was some procedural difficulty with regard to these amendments. The Chair also indicated to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) that motion No. 19 also appeared to be out of order. No argument was submitted at the time and I said I would be prepared, when we reached that item, to hear arguments either for or against the acceptability of that amendment.

Since then there have been discussions with the hon. member for Calgary North, the Minister of Justice and other hon. members. It was felt that, bearing in mind the work which had gone on during the committee stage, when this bill was under consideration, it might be the desire of the House to have a debate on the motions which were considered out of order by the Chair, that is, motions Nos. 1 and 2. For this purpose these motions would eventually be put to the House.

For the moment, my understanding is that when the House adjourned yesterday we had begun consideration of motion No. 14 in the name of the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) who had the floor. Perhaps, after we have completed consideration of this particular motion, we might return to motions Nos. 1 and 2 in the name of the hon. member for Calgary North.

Mr. Woolliams: I should just like to say that I appreciate the Chair taking this course; I assume the House has agreed to it. We on this side certainly agree to a discussion of the motion in the name of the Minister of Justice to which Your Honour referred.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair put it in this way—that I assumed this was the wish of the House. I take it that it is, and that is why I indicated the motions would be put in due course. But for the moment, the hon. member for Greenwood has the floor.

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, the amendment in my name, motion No. 14, proposes to strike out of clause 41 the words which are found in 41(2)—"or to federal-provincial relations."

Members of the House who are interested in this matter know that section 41 as a whole deals with the disclosure of documents in proceedings before the federal court which is to be established. The amendment I propose is not a sweeping one, but it does involve an important matter of principle. It represents an effort to break down to some extent the iron curtain of secrecy unnecessarily thrown around public documents. In explaining it I should like, first of all, to refer to 41(1). This is a section which enables a Minister of the Crown—how can I talk above all this noise?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps I should try to assist the hon. member for Greenwood. It is very difficult for him to make his argument, and I might say it is difficult for the Chair to hear him above the conversa-