

Business of the House

more logical for such changes to be considered by the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization. However, changes which might be needed more urgently could be implemented without spending several months in committee, but always after consultation, and in any case, Parliament would be advised.

According to the hon. member, the Minister of Veterans Affairs stated in committee that drafting of the bill was nearly completed and that he thought it could be dealt with before the summer recess even though he did not know when Parliament would adjourn. If this is so, and I believe the Minister of Veterans Affairs, I shall co-operate with him so that the bill can be introduced as soon as possible. As for the summer recess, I do not know when it will come. As to his third point, when we can expect the bill on freedom of information to be introduced in the House, I can assure him that this is one of the priorities of the government and that we shall introduce this bill as soon as possible.

[English]

Mr. Knowles: Madam Speaker, may I put a supplementary question to the government House leader with regard to the veterans' legislation. I wonder if he is aware of the fact that both the spokesman for the Progressive Conservative party and I, as spokesman for our party, gave the assurance in the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs the other day that the House would deal with that legislation in less than a day, and will he take that into consideration in arranging for that legislation to be brought forward before the summer recess, whenever it is to take place?

[Translation]

Mr. Pinard: Yes, Madam Speaker.

[English]

Mr. Beatty: Madam Speaker, on the same point of order, my colleague, the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, raised the question of freedom of information legislation. The Secretary of State and Minister of Communications has been charged by the Prime Minister with responsibility for both the freedom of information and privacy legislation. He should be aware of the proposal made by the previous government in both areas. Would the government House leader indicate to the House whether, at the same time as legislation on freedom of information is introduced, the House will also be presented with legislation on privacy, and will an effort be made to introduce both bills prior to the summer recess in order to ensure that parliamentarians and Canadians at large can look at the contents of those bills over the summer recess?

[Translation]

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, the suggestion made by the hon. member is very interesting. I must admit that others have had the same idea and that there are very good chances that we might do what has been suggested.

[English]

Mr. Roche: Madam Speaker, when the government House leader announced the list of business for tomorrow he said he would call Bill C-5 in second position. I would ask the government House leader whether he would consider calling Bill C-5 next Friday rather than tomorrow, which would allow me to participate in the debate. I think I can say from this side of the House that it will be a very short debate.

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, I am willing to accommodate the hon. member but I would not like all the work of the House to be delayed as a consequence. I will talk with the House leaders and, if possible, we will try to find something else to deal with as the second item tomorrow so the hon. member can attend his meeting. I will try to do so, but I cannot undertake to accommodate him at this stage.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

First report of Standing Committee on Regional Economic Development—Mr. Pelletier.

[Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

MEASURE TO CHANGE NAME OF CONSTITUENCY FROM RICHMOND TO RICHMOND-WOLFE

Mr. Alain Tardif (Richmond) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-606, to change the name of the electoral district of Richmond.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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HOLIDAYS ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Hon. Francis Fox (Secretary of State and Minister of Communications) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-37, to amend the Holidays Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.