

Business of the House

Mr. Pinard:—I just want to live by what I understood. If I misunderstood, that is fine. I do not doubt the good faith of the Hon. Member and I am not upset about what he is saying, but certainly he should not expect me to apologize because I do not feel that I am wrong.

I am saying that we are negotiating as usual as House Leaders. The Bill to which he refers is included in our negotiations and the fact that he has raised it now will not facilitate the passage of the Bill. If anything, it will make it more difficult for me to pass it. However, I will still try to do my best to allow the Bill to be passed before the end of June, provided the Hon. Member and his Party are reasonable and also allow other legislation to be dealt with.

The very simple request is to allow the Canada Labour Code Bill to go to committee in less than a day, provided that at the same time, after two days of debate, we allow Bill C-37 respecting the National Housing Act to be sent to committee on the same day. That is a very simple proposition. If the Hon. Member is sincere and acts in good faith, as I believe he is, he will agree to that. That is the answer that I was waiting for. I am still waiting.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, the Government House Leader says that he does not doubt the good faith of the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain. I must say that I am sorry to report to the House that I do.

I have not been in this job very long. My understanding of the responsibility of House Leaders is that when we have meetings our negotiations are to be carried on in good faith and in confidence. There is a process of negotiation that takes place. I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my Party, that my mandate involves ensuring that Parliament is productive and passes the legislation that should be passed.

Our position is well known to the Government House Leader. When someone stands in the House and attributes a position taken in the course of negotiations that is wrong and misleading with respect to our position on the Canada Labour Code, I can only say that it brings shame on that member.

I want to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I am not going to be away all next week like the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain. He makes a big show before he goes away. He will not be in the House of Commons or Canada. I will not stand here and be a hypocrite. If he wants to carry on the negotiations in public and if he wants us to participate with him in the same room, he better rethink whether he is going to discuss what goes on in House Leaders' meetings.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I would ask that you look carefully at the record of what I said. I made no reference whatsoever to anything that happened at House Leaders' meetings. Absolutely none. I made absolutely no reference to today's House Leaders' meeting. I did not make any reference to what was discussed at the House Leaders' meeting. The references were made by the Government House Leader and the House Leader for the Official Opposition.

I simply asked that we come to some understanding with regard to a piece of legislation that I have been asking about since it was introduced. We have been asking that there be some clear understanding on the record of how that Bill is to be dealt with. I am prepared to enter into agreements on legislation at any time, as I frequently do, in order to try to expedite the business of the House of Commons.

As far as my absence next week is concerned, perhaps the Hon. House Leader for the Official Opposition would like to suggest that perhaps I ought not to be there representing Canada at the D-Day Remembrance, as I have been asked to be. Maybe he thinks that is not important in the over-all scheme of public business. Maybe he feels that we ought to ignore the request of the veterans who have asked that I take part. Perhaps that is his attitude.

Mr. Speaker: It is the interpretation of the Chair that the request for unanimous consent has been refused.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

TRANSPORT—PRESENTATION OF SECOND REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Maurice A. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour of tabling the second report of the Standing Committee on Transport.

FINANCE, TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS—PRESENTATION OF SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Jim Peterson (Willowdale): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour of tabling the second, third, fourth and fifth reports of the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs. These deal with Bill C-8 on trade practices, draft amendments to the Income Tax Act, Customs Tariff and insolvency.

[*Editor's Note: For above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

PETITIONS

MS. McDONALD—TREATMENT OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview-Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I wish to present a petition supporting my Private Member's Motion concerning injustices to Japanese Canadians. This is a petition signed by a large number of people, including some in my riding of Broadview-Greenwood, many others throughout Toronto and the surrounding area as well as