

reading, that is fine. That is not an important point. If he feels more comfortable with that, let's give it second reading now, and he will give us the explanation tomorrow. If third reading is not given tomorrow, that would still not be the equivalent of holding up supply, because it will only be because it is not needed tomorrow.

That is all we are awaiting an answer to.

**Senator Doody:** First, let me express my gratitude to the honourable senator for his agreement to go along with my suggestion. I cannot fault the impeccable logic of the honourable gentleman, nor would I ever try to get involved in that. I respect very much his legal mind and his orderly presentation of facts—

**Senator Frith:** But . . .

**Senator Doody:** But—and this is a long slow one—the problem is not in the facts as presented; the problem is in the perception. I really do not have to tell any honourable senator that very often what is in the eye of the beholder is not what is actually happening—

**Senator Frith:** Well, let's see what happens tomorrow.

**Senator Doody:** If the word gets out that we are waiting until we get an explanation of such and such before giving this bill third reading, then I am afraid of what the perception will be in places other than this one. I do not doubt for a moment that honourable senators opposite are going to give us this bill. I just prefer that they do it in a way that is consistent with perhaps what I think, erroneously, should be the way the Senate should conduct itself.

I thank you for your consideration in this respect. I think it is really for the benefit of the chamber as a whole and not for me.

**Senator Frith:** There will be no "if" problem if it is tomorrow. We will know tomorrow.

● (1600)

**Senator Stewart:** Honourable senators, the Deputy Leader of the Government should not be put in the position of having to tell the Senate that they—presumably Treasury Board—will have to go to extreme lengths to get funding for various matters of concern to the Government of Canada without having been given some sort of explanation as to what the urgency is and what the extreme lengths are. It puts the Leader of the Government and his deputy in an awkward position when they have to use that kind of language and then say "Well, we will go back and see what they meant when they told us to say that."

**Senator Doody:** Honourable senators, perhaps I should not have used the word "extreme" with that degree of emphasis. I had not thought I had done that. I thought I had said "extreme lengths", or something like that. Or perhaps I should have just said "lengths"; or simply that "They want the money." I will try to be less histrionic the next time I ask for supply. I will be very pristine, very precise, and very concise.

[Senator Frith.]

As for being put in this position, I do not mind that at all. As I said earlier today, I was President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Finance in Newfoundland for a number of years, and the positions one gets into in that job are really rather difficult compared to my present position.

However, if honourable senators will permit me, I will conclude my remarks on second reading, unless any other honourable senator wishes to speak.

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Honourable senators, I wish to inform the Senate that if the honourable Senator Doody speaks now, his speech will have the effect of closing the debate on the motion for second reading of this bill.

**Senator Doody:** Honourable senators, as I have said, I would prefer to leave the point concerning the urgency of this matter, which probably hinges on the amalgamation of these two bills, until third reading tomorrow.

I have very little to add on the other matters that were raised. Senator Stewart's concern with regard to putting the Minister of Justice into a frenzy is not one that I share. There are many other Newfoundlanders whose present positions are a great deal more uncomfortable and untenable than is that of the Minister of Justice in Ottawa. I am thinking in terms of the number of unemployed people around the province who are in a far more difficult position, and I have far more sympathy for their plight than I do for my honourable colleague and friend in the other place.

With regard to the situation concerning post-secondary education, a few days ago I spoke in that connection and supported the request of Senator Leblanc that this matter be referred to the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance. I approached the matter from an angle and a perspective different from that of Senator Stewart. I still look at it from the point of view of its being a provincial responsibility. I lean more toward the school of thought adopted by Senator Tremblay, in terms of provincial rights, than perhaps some of my colleagues, either on the federal or the economic scene.

I believe it is a subject that will require a good deal of consideration, and will become far more important as time goes on. The amount of money involved is large, and the future of this country really depends on the development of that most important resource, our people, and also on standards, both in terms of the scientific and technical training and also on the academia that result from post-secondary education.

I completely concur with the need to examine such matters, and I look forward to participating in the examination of post-secondary education when the subject comes before the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance.

I again thank honourable senators for their consideration in this matter, and I trust that I will be able to provide some satisfactory answers tomorrow.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?