

Government Orders[*Translation*]

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I heard your comments a moment ago, when you said that House leaders should negotiate outside this House. Traditionally, House leaders meet regularly, especially on Tuesday, to decide on the business of the House for the following days.

I must point out that we were not told last week that the government intended to call Bill C-86, an Act to amend the Income Tax Act (child tax credit), for discussion this week. However, we noticed some interest in the general public and, as the Official Opposition, we say that if the government wishes to give some good news and to do its job seriously, we agree to consider Bill C-86 and pass it as quickly as possible.

We have members who wish to speak on Bills C-81, C-82 and C-73, but, Mr. Speaker, if the government commit itself without prejudice to starting debate on second reading of Bill C-86 later today, we have no objection.

[*English*]

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I am amazed at the comments of the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier, because I had assumed that we would agree. I intend to seek unanimous consent now, without any further interruption, to go directly to Bill C-86, the child tax credit, because we feel this—

Some hon. members: Oh, oh.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Order! Order, please. I feel compelled to ask the House leaders, if they so wish, to meet outside the House. As far as I am concerned, I have no choice but to recognize again the hon. member for Winnipeg Transcona on current business, that is Bill C-81.

[*English*]

Mr. Blaikie: Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see that my words this afternoon have moved the leaders of the House to action and that they will be meeting. Perhaps, after having listened to my admonitions, they will come to some kind of arrangement.

I note, on the main point, that we should this afternoon be dealing with Bill C-86. My House leader sought

unanimous consent to do right away and that was denied. A very curious argument was offered by the Liberal House leader, that he had Liberals who wanted to speak on this particular bill. We have had two NDP speakers in a row and no Liberals rose.

An hon. member: That's right.

Mr. Blaikie: I find it very curious indeed.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I am asking for the co-operation of the hon. member for Winnipeg Transcona. Would he, please, be relevant, that is deal with Bill C-81.

[*English*]

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order or disorder, because the member is looking for disorder here; he is imputing motives.

Debate started on Bill C-81 this afternoon. We participated in it. We have given our undertaking that we would look at Bill C-81 today and, if possible, Bill C-82 and, if possible, Bill C-73.

I am saying that by unanimous consent we can do anything in this House, but the member for Kamloops cannot move a bill that does not belong to him. It belongs to the government, and I am asking the government, if it feels so disposed to bring in Bill C-86, to do so. We will give it our unanimous consent to bring it in; but I am saying that the member for Kamloops cannot bring in that bill. He is politicizing or he is participating in something which we never do in this House, that is partisan politics.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Riis: I rise on a point of order. Heaven forbid, Mr. Speaker, that we might have some politics in the House of Commons of Canada.

I want to make it perfectly clear—and perhaps there has been some misunderstanding—I am well aware, unfortunately, that the New Democratic Party is unable to bring forward this legislation on this child tax credit.

Just to make the point very clear, I would like to seek, through you, Mr. Speaker, unanimous consent to revert now to the consideration of Bill C-86 in an effort to move this legislation forward expeditiously.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.