

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, April 6, 1970

• (2:10 p.m.)

The House met at 2 p.m.

[English]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

PRIVILEGE

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. DUMONT—RESIGNATION AND FAREWELL

Mr. Bernard Dumont (Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I should like to inform the House that, as of this day, I shall no longer represent the constituency of Frontenac. I am resigning with the satisfaction of having discharged my responsibilities. Other duties will enable me to return to Ottawa in order to negotiate the rights of Quebec, after April 29.

I urge the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) to take the advice of the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) and get married so as to be able to grasp the human problems facing all Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, to you and to all my colleagues I say that the experience gained in this House is highly valuable. I thank you all for your understanding, but we will surely meet again.

Som hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member should perhaps indicate to the Chair whether his resignation comes into force immediately or whether he intends to tell us when he will leave the House?

Mr. Dumont: It will take effect this very day, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Frontenac having notified us of his intention to resign his seat, it is my duty to inform the House that when the Clerk has entered such notice on the journals of the House, in accordance with the provisions of section 6, chapter 143 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1952, namely under the House of Commons Act, I shall forthwith address my warrant to the Chief Electoral Officer, for the issue of a writ for the election of a new member for the said federal constituency.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I thought it might be of some assistance to the House if I indicated the plan for House business for this week commencing April 6.

As hon. members know, the first item for today will be government order No. 5, the report stage of Bill C-3, the hate literature bill, to be followed by third reading in due course. The second item is government order No. 15, the bill with regard to the International Development Research Centre; we would expect that would be called tomorrow. The remaining two days of the budget debate, that is, the fifth and sixth appointed days, would be called for Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Friday will be the remaining allotted day from the last period which, pursuant to the order made by the House, will be allotted to the New Democratic Party.

I hope to have a meeting with the House Leaders later today or tomorrow to discuss the general allocation of business for this part of the session.

CRIMINAL CODE

BREATHALYZER PROVISIONS—REFERENCE OF VALIDITY OF PROCLAMATION TO SUPREME COURT

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the government has decided today to refer the important question of whether the breathalyzer provisions of the Criminal Code were validly proclaimed on December 1 last to the Supreme Court of Canada for hearing and consideration pursuant to section 55 of the Supreme Court Act. This step is being taken because of the recent judgment of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in the case of Regina v. Story which held that these provisions had not been properly proclaimed.

The breathalyzer provisions contained in recent Criminal Code amendments were