

*Business of the House***PRIVILEGE**

MR. DOMM—ALLEGED DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT
SUFFERED BY HON. MEMBER FOR PETERBOROUGH

Madam Speaker: The hon. Secretary of State (Mr. Fox) gave me notice that he wanted to add information to that he has already given in reply to the question of privilege of the hon. member for Peterborough (Mr. Domm).

When the question of privilege was brought up, he indicated that he would come back to the House with additional information. He has already been heard once on that question. Bearing in mind that he indicated that he would like to come back to the House to give more information, I am quite willing to hear him again if the House agrees.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Madam Speaker: The hon. member for Nepean-Carleton.

[*English*]

Hon. Walter Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Madam Speaker, the case in question involves the hon. member for Peterborough (Mr. Domm) who unfortunately cannot be here today because of another engagement. I wonder if the hon. gentleman would defer—certainly there would be agreement to defer—the information until the hon. member for Peterborough can be present. It may come about, as a result of what the minister says, that there would be an equal disposition of the House to allow the hon. member for Peterborough to speak. If we could, perhaps we should do it all at once. That would certainly be agreeable.

[*Translation*]

Madam Speaker: Would the hon. minister agree to postponing his statement?

Hon. Francis Fox (Secretary of State and Minister of Communications): Madam Speaker, I should be pleased to do so. My statement is really intended to make certain facts known from which stemmed the question of privilege of the hon. member for Peterborough (Mr. Domm), and to throw light on those circumstances, with a view to helping the Chair decide whether or not the question of privilege is valid. Accordingly, I should be pleased to accede to the request of the House leader of the opposition that my statement be postponed to a later date.

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[*English*]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Nystrom: Madam Speaker, my point of order reverts back to House business, if I may. I would like to ask the government House leader whether or not he can tell us if he is still planning tentatively to have a special debate on the constitution amounting to one day or two days. He did not refer to that matter.

The other question I want to pose is: Regardless of whether or not there is a special debate on the constitution, is he in a position to say whether or not it is the intention of the government to table before the House any documents that might be relevant to us on the constitution which are now being used by the government in negotiations in Montreal and in subsequent negotiations in Toronto and Vancouver? It may be useful to us as parliamentarians to have access to those documents, particularly if there is no special debate in the House.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, the hon. member's suggestion to hold a debate on constitutional affairs or on current negotiations can be taken into consideration, but it will always be easy to deal with that matter either on an opposition day or on an adjournment motion if the opportunity arises this month.

As for his request to table documents, I cannot give him an answer at this moment.

[*English*]

Mr. Robinson (Burnaby): Madam Speaker, my point of order also relates to the question of House business. I would ask my question of either the President of the Privy Council or the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice, who I see is in the chamber.

Earlier in this session we were given an indication that the government would be bringing in, before the summer recess, legislation with respect to the decriminalization of possession of marijuana. Could we have some indication from either the President of the Privy Council or the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice on this question? I am sure that all parties would be prepared to give speedy passage to such a bill.

Mr. Robinson (Etobicoke-Lakeshore): Madam Speaker, with regard to this matter, I would point out to the hon. member that the Minister of Justice will be appearing before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs next Monday, July 14. At that time I am sure he would be only too happy to answer the question raised by the hon. member.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Fourth report of Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs—Mr. Cullen.

First report of Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections—Mr. Foster.

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