PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED UNDER ADJOURNMENT MOTION

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Batten): It is my duty, pursuant to provisional Standing Order 39A, to inform the House that the questions to be raised at ten o'clock p.m. this day are as follows: (1) The hon. Member for Nicolet-Yamaska (Mr. Vincent)—Agriculture—Quebec-Request for announcement of dairy policy; (2) the hon. Member for Port Arthur (Mr. Fisher)—Transport—Division of fields of operation between railway companies; (3) the hon. Member for Northwest Territories (Mr. Rhéaume)—Labour Conditions— Designated Areas-Consultation with Yukon and Northwest Territories.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PROVISION FOR CONSIDERATION OF ESTIMATES AND ALLOCATION OF TIME

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Pearson, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Bell:

That this House recognizes the need for improving its procedures to provide full opportunity for the critical examination of proposed legislation and to ensure the effective dispatch of public business:

That this House agrees upon the need for allocating the time for the business of the House; and That, in order to secure improved examination of the details of legislation and of public spending, while maintaining the full authority of the House, this House agrees upon the value of making increased use of Standing Committees;

That this House accordingly orders:

1. (a) That detailed examination of estimates. saving always the right of the Committee of Supply, be undertaken by Standing Committees and that not more than 30 days of the time of the House be allocated to the business of supply in each session. For the purpose of this order, the business of supply shall consist of main estimates; interim supply; and supplementary or additional estimates excepting supplementary or additional estimates introduced after the main estimates have been approved, and excepting always the final supplementary or additional estimates;

(b) That the number of supply motions be reduced from six to four; and

(c) That a Special Committee of the House. consisting of twenty-four members, to be desigHouse of Commons Procedures

nated later by the House, be instructed to prepare and to submit to the House forthwith the changes in Standing Orders consequential upon these orders. including any means of giving to the opposition an opportunity to select the departmental estimates to be discussed.

2. That the Standing Orders be amended by adding thereto a new Standing Order 15-A. to read as follows:

Standing Order 15-A

15-A. (1) There shall be a Business Committee to which the leader of each party in the House from time to time by written notice to the Speaker may appoint one member.

(2) During routine proceedings a Minister of the Crown may request that the question of allocation of time for consideration of any item of business or stage thereof be referred to the Business Committee for consideration and report. and upon such request being made such question shall stand referred to the committee.

(3) The Business Committee shall report back to the House on or before the third sitting day following such request.

(4) If the Chairman of the Business Committee reports that the Committee has unanimously recommended an allocation of time for the item of business or stage thereof, a Minister of the Crown may without notice propose a motion to be decided without debate or amendment, for concurrence in the report, and, if agreed to, the motion shall have the same effect as if it were an order of the House.

(5) If the Chairman of the Business Committee reports that the committee has been unable to reach a unanimous agreement or if the committee fails to report within the time specified by Section (3) of this Standing Order, a Minister of the Crown may give notice that at the next sitting of the House he will move that an order be made allocating the time for the item of business or stage thereof.

(6) A motion of which a Minister has given notice under Section (5) of this Standing Order shall be made during routine proceedings. Unless the debate on the motion has been previously concluded, Mr. Speaker shall at fifteen minutes before the expiry of the time provided for Government business in such sitting, interrupt the proceedings and forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the main motion. A motion requesting allocation of time, if agreed to, shall have the same effect as if it were an order of the House.

(7) No motion made by a Minister under Sections (5) and (6) of this Standing Order shall provide for the allocation of a period of time shorter than two days for the second reading, two days for the committee stage, and one day for the third reading of any bill. For the purposes of this section, third reading shall be deemed to have been considered for one day provided the order for third reading is called as the first item under Government Orders on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, and provided it is continued, if necessary, until the normal time of adjournment on any such day; provided that if a representative of each party has not spoken, the hour for the adjournment of the sitting shall be extended until a representative of each party has had an op-portunity to speak. Such an order having been called on any Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, it shall have precedence over all other business until the time of adjournment on that