Petitions

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, I do not have a long presentation to make to you, Sir, because it is clear that the Hon. Member has no case of privilege at all on the basis of the information she has brought forward.

The Hon. Member refers to an alleged document which she has in her possession which I have not seen and upon which I am not able to comment except to say that I believe the Hon. Member will recall that when reference was made in this House to a document of similar ilk, there was an indication that there was no knowledge on the part of the Government as to where this document came from, what it was, and in fact there was absolutely no acceptance of it as a document or despatch of the Government. We are going to look into these matters, whether they be by way of press reports or synopses or documents of which I have no knowledge. I think that is not the basis upon which any prima facie case can be established and, accordingly, I would ask you to rule in this instance that there is not a prima facie case.

There has been no demonstration, even from what I have heard, Mr. Speaker, of any suggested threat against any Hon. Member. If that were the case, certainly with respect to polls being taken as to whether or not a Member of Parliament is accepted or not accepted, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) would be first in line, because apparently he is having polling done as to which Ministers are the most formidable in this House, and I do not feel threatened at all.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Hamilton East (Ms. Copps) did in fact send me notice of her intention to raise her question. It is a serious accusation and I fully intend to reserve and give the matter the proper attention it deserves.

If I may say to the Hon. Member, just as a matter of form, the Hon. Member has quoted from a document and I would ask her, please, in order to bring her complaint within the form, to provide me in my chambers with a copy of the document.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I wish to announce the business for this afternoon and, indeed, into tomorrow.

Mr. Gauthier: You announced that yesterday. Have you changed your mind again?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I know the Hon. Member for Vanier-

Mr. Gauthier: Ottawa-Vanier.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: —the Hon. Member for Ottawa-Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) missed me yesterday. I had some discussions with the Opposition House Leaders, Mr. Speaker, concerning the matter of the order of business and, in order that we can proceed with items of business and that there be no misunderstanding on the part of anyone, we have changed the order of

business now to continue to deal with Bill C-71, an Act to amend the customs tariff. Bill C-72 will be the next Bill, which is an Act amending the statute law and the Income Tax Act and the Tax Court of Canada Act. Bill C-73 will be the next item of business, which is an act to validate certain ordinances in the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories. That will be followed by Bill C-74, an Act to amend the Constitution Act, 1867, and the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act. Then Bill C-55, an Act to amend the Immigration Act.

Discussions will continue, Mr. Speaker, and if there be a change in that sequence of business, or any other item is brought forward, I will rise in my place and make an appropriate announcement so that all Hon. Members will be apprised at the earliest date.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that that is in fact what resulted from conversations and discussions we had this morning. I am pleased to return to the orderly way of doing business.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

PETITIONS

FULL INDEXATION OF FAMILY ALLOWANCES AND CHILD TAX CREDIT

Mrs. Thérèse Killens (Saint-Michel-Ahuntsic): I have the honour to present a petition from residents of my constituency of Saint-Michel-Ahuntsic and of Beauharnois, Papineau and Rosemont. They ask the Government to review its position and to re-establish full indexation of family allowances and the child tax credit for all Canadian families.

I therefore ask the Government and the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) to consider the concerns of these people and to take action to correct this injustice.

Mr. Speaker, I have more petitions from residents of the Hochelaga-Maisonneuve constituency and of Saint-Denis. The petitioners humbly sheweth that, while the Prime Minister promised Canadian citizens during the 1984 electoral campaign to maintain full indexation of family allowances and the child tax credit, cut backs of \$55 million will be effected in family assistance benefits if the Government does not review its budgetary measure, that it is unacceptable that the Canadian Government—

Mr. Speaker: If I may interrupt, I believe that the Hon. Member is well aware that it is forbidden to read the petition, but that she may give a brief summary.

Mrs. Killens: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, the summary is as follows: That the Government of Canada make the necessary