

*Business of the House*

after their own interests to see that their needs are looked after can be in a position of being fragmented, of having to fight battles separately and of having to work in quite a different situation from what they were used to.

The Minister made very much of the point in her remarks that the Bill is a different Bill from the previous one. It does reflect some changes, but I suspect she is trying to butter us up with the statement. I do not think it is very much different from the previous Bill. Apparently there are not a lot of Conservative Members lined up wanting to speak on it. It seems that they do not see this as a new Bill that they want to discuss. I do not know whether they will be really embarrassed about it, but I note there was an attempt to sneak it through the House and bring it on while people who were concerned about this issue were in a meeting of the Standing Committee on Communications and Culture. The Government should be blushing and perhaps hanging its head in shame for trying to fool the opposition critics who were occupied in a standing committee meeting, an important meeting, while sneaking the Bill into the House.

Perhaps the Government hoped that people would not see this important piece of legislation and would get away with sneaking it through very quickly. I would like to assure the Government that it is not going to get away with any such thing. We are going to give this Bill very full attention. It is not quite a test case. There can hardly be that many companies in the same kind of situation, but I do remind the House that we have very broad concerns about corporate concentration and deregulation. These are very important themes in the Bill before us now and we are going to look at the Bill very carefully. We are going to look at it carefully clause by clause in committee.

We think the Bill is misguided. We think the whole question should be looked at from the context of a decent telecommunications policy. We are sorry to see that the previous Liberal Government capitulated to Bell Canada on this and that the Conservatives have simply had absolutely no vision in developing a policy for themselves. They have simply gone along with the tactics of Bell Canada of getting what it wants by moving quickly, going to the courts and simply bulldozing its way, ignoring the requirements of the CRTC. This is not the way to develop policy for the public. It is not the way to see that the public interest is served in this extremely important area of telephone service.

I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that we are going to be fighting on these general issues of deregulation and corporate concentration and we are going to be looking to see that the consumer is well served in this very important telecommunications matter.

[Translation]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! The Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier), on a point of order.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Speaker, before resuming debate, I wonder if we could ask the Government what the business of the House will be for tomorrow and what Bills will be considered so that we can prepare ourselves accordingly.

[English]

**Mr. Lewis:** Mr. Speaker, it is the intention of the Government to proceed tomorrow with Bill C-14, the Excise Tax Act.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

[English]

**BELL CANADA ACT**

## MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Miss MacDonald that Bill C-13, an Act respecting the reorganization of Bell Canada, be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, the Bill we are debating today is the same Bill that we dealt with last year, Bill C-19. Bill C-19 was brought forward and debated in the House by the present Conservative Government. Bill C-19 was essentially the same Bill that was brought forward by a previous Government when Francis Fox was the Minister of Communications, which was then Bill C-20. That old saying "The more things change, the more they are the same" applies to Canada and applies to the Liberal and Conservative Parties. When you get down to the real life of how companies operate, particularly large companies and what powers they have and are given, there is no difference between the Liberals and Conservatives.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Don't tell that to Bob Rae.

**Mr. Orlikow:** We are talking about the federal House. We are not talking about the temporary situation going on in the Province of Ontario.

The principles in this Bill were opposed by a large number of organizations which appeared before the committee last year and which gave evidence in opposition. Bringing in this Bill now demonstrates even more clearly than bringing in the Bill last year that this is just another of the pre-election promises made by the Progressive Conservative Party on which it is renegeing.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) before the election told the communications workers, Mr. Speaker, that no major changes would be made in this area of Canadian life until the Government had worked out, brought down and tabled a telecommunications policy. We have yet, despite the fact that the Government has been in office for two years, to see that telecommunications policy. This is another example of ad hockery. In an important facet of Canadian life, the question