COMMONS DEBATES

Mr. Speaker: I would advise the Hon. Member for Nickel Belt that I had indicated that I would recognize him for only one question because we were near the end of Question Period. We are all delighted to have the Hon. Member back with us. His enthusiasm is evident. I am sure he will have a chance to ask another question soon.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 29

EXPORT CONTROL—STRATEGIC MATERIAL—SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker: Earlier today I received an application from the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry (Mr. Axworthy) for an emergency debate under Standing Order 29 with respect to the export of certain material to Iran from Canada. I indicated that I would consider the application carefully and report to the House at this time, which I am now doing.

There is no question that the matter is important. That has been evidenced by the questions asked today during Question Period. However, having reviewed the terms of Standing Order 29 with relation to the existence of a genuine emergency, I regret to inform the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry that I cannot accept his application at this time.

I repeat, as I have on occasions of other such applications, that I considered the matter to be serious, and that has been evidenced by the exchange today. I am sure there will be other occasions during the next few days to raise the matter.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions with the Opposition House Leaders and critics with respect to certain legislation regarding the maintenance of ports operations which was introduced this morning. I know the representative of the Liberal Party would probably be in agreement with the proposal I am about to put forward. There have been discussions with the New Democratic Party as well. I am not sure whether there has been complete concurrence but, with your permission, Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent for the following proposal with regard to Bill C-24:

That, notwithstanding any Standing or Special Order of the House:

Bill C-24, an Act to provide for the maintenance of ports operations, be called for Second Reading and reference to a Committee of the Whole forthwith upon the passage of this Order;

That Private Members' Business shall not be taken into consideration and that the item scheduled for this day in the name of the Hon. Member for Davenport, be rescheduled for Private Members' Hour on Tuesday, November 18, 1986;

Business of the House

That proceedings pursuant to Standing Order 66 shall not be taken into consideration this day; and

That Mr. Speaker shall not adjourn the House this day until such time as Bill C-24 has been passed through all stages.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. Does the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) have unanimous consent to move the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: I must advise the House that there is not unanimous consent.

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. This is a very important piece of legislation. I would like to indicate that our Party is willing to proceed to second reading today. I would request the unanimous consent of the House to proceed to second reading today. Our Party would certainly be willing to have this completed by tomorrow.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, if that is a commitment to pass this piece of legislation through all stages by tomorrow, I assume they are agreeing to proceed through Committee of the Whole. Hopefully it would be completed today or very early tomorrow. It would be preferable to complete it today. Could we be more precise and say tomorrow at the end of the day or at noon? I believe Hon. Members truly recognize the importance of this issue. If we could have that assurance that it would be passed through all stages by noon tomorrow, I believe there could be agreement.

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, as I think many Hon. Members know, the Official Opposition was ready to agree to the Order as originally presented.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

• (1510)

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): We want to make some points about the Bill, which we are ready to make in debate. We realize the importance of the issue. We were and are ready to co-operate to enable the House to take an early decision, assuming there is an appropriate time for debate of the matters set forth in the Bill. In the spirit of co-operation, therefore, we are certainly willing to go along with other approaches to an early disposition of this matter, including the one suggested by the New Democratic Party. As I have said, we were willing to agree with the order originally proposed by the Government House Leader.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the cooperation of the Hon. House Leader of the Liberal Party. Every day is very important. I am amazed that the New Democratic Party is not prepared to work overtime on this issue. I regret that very much.