

*Oral Questions*

While the minister is on his feet, perhaps he could indicate to the House, that if rumour become reality in the sense that the House is called back in mid-summer session, whether or not he would be prepared to give reasonable notice to Opposition House leaders on the business which will be taking place? We may assume what it might be, but I ask concerning reasonable notice.

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Madam Speaker, in terms of today, unfortunately we had to time allocate second reading of Bill C-73. If that debate collapses, if time permits and if there is agreement among the parties, I hope we might consider Bill S-11, the Airport Transfer Act, which is fairly routine, to get that passed and allow the airport authorities the confidence of knowing what the rules will be as they assume responsibility for the airports in Vancouver, Montreal, Edmonton and Calgary.

There is also Bill C-46, on which I also understand there is general agreement. This is a bill that would permit federal law enforcement officers to issue fines in appropriate circumstances, as opposed to having to issue a summons, which is now the case.

This bill is particularly important to members in recreational vacation areas, since police enforcing boating laws and so on will be able to do so by virtue of fines rather than having to summons the offenders, should that be the case.

Tomorrow and Monday, it would be my intention to call Bill C-86, the Immigration Act, and on Tuesday the government will call Bill C-26, the Public Service Reform Act, for report stage.

In terms of the potential of the House of Commons coming back, I would like the opportunity to pass the usual motion that the House can be called into session for the purpose of Royal Assent, because the Senate will be carrying on with some business, I understand, after we leave.

If for any other reason the House is called back, certainly I give the House leaders of the Opposition and the New Democratic Party, and indeed all members, assurances that adequate notice will be given. I am sure they share with me the hope that in fact such notice is unnecessary and that we are not called back. Neverthe-

less, if the country is at stake, I am sure we would willingly come back and help to keep it together.

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• (1520 )

**POINT OF ORDER****84TH BIRTHDAY OF HON. STANLEY KNOWLES**

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville):** Madam Speaker, I would like to note officially that today is the 84th birthday of Stanley Knowles.

On behalf of all members I would like to pay tribute to a gentleman who first came to this place in the fall of 1942. It will be 50 years this November since Mr. Knowles was first elected to the House in a by-election in Winnipeg North Centre where he took over from the late Mr. Woodsworth who was the founding leader of the CCF party.

I think we owe Mr. Knowles an awful lot of gratitude for the contribution he has made to this country and to this House.

I was first elected in 1968. When I came down here at that time Mr. Knowles was recognized as the father of Parliament, Mr. Rules of this place, a very kind and very courteous gentleman who treated all members of the House of Commons with great respect.

I remember a regular routine around this place. About 3.30 in the afternoon a messenger would come in with a cup of tea and some Arrowroot biscuits. Mr. Knowles would go behind the curtain; he was the only member of the House who never went up to the coffee shop or up to his office, or even out to the lobby, for his tea and biscuit break. He used to sit right there in the back and make sure he kept his ears alert to every word that was spoken in the House of Commons.

We owe him a great tribute and a tremendous amount of respect.

I remember the first year I was here, Madam Speaker, I was 22 years old at the time. The only time he became annoyed with me was one day when I leaned over to him and asked him, because he was the House leader, what Sir John A. Macdonald was really like. Mr. Knowles had been here for a long time but he quickly informed me he had not been here in those days.