Oral Questions

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Who do you think you are, Robert Redford?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

LABOUR CONDITIONS

SUGGESTED MEETING WITH PRESIDENT OF LABOUR CONGRESS TO AVOID GENERAL STRIKE

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. On Tuesday I brought to the attention of the minister the fact that the CLC would be considering resolutions, one of which would be to mobilize for a general strike. The minister said he was concerned about it and that we all should be trying our best to avoid this. I hope he would think that a personal audience with the president of the CLC is in keeping with any plan to avoid a strike. Has he met with the president and if so, what has been the result?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I have discussed this matter and general labour matters with the president of the CLC on many occasions.

Mr. Alexander: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister discuss this matter again with the president of the CLC in order to advise him of the gravity of the situation prior to the convention? This is what we are interested in.

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I think the president of the CLC is aware of the concern about resolutions of this kind. I shall probably be talking to him on several occasions in the next week or so, but he is aware of the situation.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREAT LAKES SEAMEN—REQUEST FOR CONCILIATION

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I too have a question for the Minister of Labour. In light of the fact that contract negotiations have broken down between seamen, masters and officers and the Great Lakes carriers and that they have asked for a conciliation, what action has the minister taken in connection with this?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, we are discussing this with the parties concerned to find the most appropriate way to bring them back together. Many of the issues have been ironed out over the last few months. I think we will be able to arrive at a procedure to bring the parties together.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): A supplementary question. Would the minister undertake to report to the House next week what progress he has been able to make? The deadline on the contract is June 1.

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

GRAIN

PROTEIN PREMIUM FOR PRODUCERS WHO SHIP IN CAR LOTS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, I shall address my question to his parliamentary secretary. What action has been taken in light of the request of the Palliser Wheat Growers Association that producers who wish to ship their grain by producer car lots receive a protein premium?

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give the hon. member a detailed reply today but I will undertake to get it and report very shortly.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I rise a point of order. I wonder if I might ask the government House leader about the business for the balance of the week and for next week.

(1500)

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, this afternoon, as the House is aware, we will take votes on the report stage of Bill C-68. We shall then revert to second reading of Bill C-84. the intention of the government is that debate on second reading of that bill will continue until conclusion, except for interruptions for allotted days, the budget if it should be delivered before debate on second reading of Bill C-84 is concluded, and perhaps report stage and third reading of Bill C-81, the MPs' pay bill.

I should add, for the information of hon. members, that the House leaders have agreed to recommend that the taking of a recorded vote on second reading of Bill C-84 will be subject to an order of the House, which I shall in due course, after discussion with the other House leaders, bring before the House, but not necessarily at the immediate conclusion of the debate itself. I say this so that hon members can be assured there will not be a surprise vote or that they will have to carry on the debate unnecessarily in order to avoid a vote at an inconvenient time.

As a means of facilitating the planning of the remainder of this session by the various parties and members, I wish to designate in a preliminary way—I emphasize that it is a preliminary way and I may need to alter some of these days later—the list of allotted days. For next week the confirmed allotted days will be Wednesday, May 12, and Thursday, May 13. The other days I shall designate more tentatively. They may be subject to change, perhaps because of the introduction of the budget and for other reasons which may appeal to those who are involved with the management of the House. The other suggested allotted