

Government Orders

Mr. Riis: Point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Point of order, the hon. member for Kamloops.

Mr. Riis: I think the record will show clearly that while you recognized my hon. friend from across the way, before he began speaking you recognized me on a point of order.

An hon. member: That is right.

Mr. Riis: He can speak all he wants. The point is that you had recognized my point of order. I stood up on a point of order and presented a motion. I think the record is very clear. If we do not follow the rules in the House of Commons, then why do we have rules?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I recognized the hon. member for Elk Island. He was starting to speak. Then I came back to the hon. member for Kamloops. The hon. member for Elk Island has the floor. On debate.

Mr. Brian O'Kurley (Elk Island): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to remind the House and my hon. colleagues in the NDP that the IMF is a very specialized instrument designed to achieve many valuable and important economic goals of the international community.

One of the concepts that is embodied in this organization is the concept of balance. The proposed increases in IMF quotas is part of a regular cycle for reviewing fund quotas. The higher level of total IMF quotas is required to ensure a better balance between the resources available to the IMF and the needs of members for balance of payments financing over the next few years.

It is important to recognize here that while other institutions will provide the bulk of development financing for the developing world, the IMF has the specific responsibility to use its resources in support of growth oriented economic adjustment programs for both developing and developed countries.

The concept of working together with both the developing and the developed countries is very important. We know that that goes against the philosophy of the NDP which has shown and demonstrated from time to time through their activities and the activities of their sup-

porters that it supports more of a confrontational approach, as opposed to a co-operative approach.

This bill is reinforcing Canada's support of this co-operative approach by offering a program to both developing and developed nations. This bill is a very valuable initiative. I should add that it does not represent any significant additional cost to our country.

Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I would move:

That the House continue to sit beyond the ordinary hour of adjournment for the purpose of continuing consideration of the second reading stage of government Bill C-93, an act to amend the Bretton Woods and Related Agreements Act.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Will those members who object to the motion please rise in their places.

And fewer than 15 members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The motion is adopted.

Motion agreed to.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): A point of order. The hon. member for Kamloops.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I seek clarification from my hon. friend, the government whip. Earlier today my assistant and I had it confirmed that the government would not do what it has just done. It was not just confirmed with me. It was with my assistant. We asked whether the government would extend hours and the official said, "No, definitely not".

I repeated that question: "Do you plan to extend the hours today?". Again he said, "No, we will not".

I want to register my concern that when an official says one thing and then the government does another, it makes it very difficult to plan to do business.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): What you people do behind the curtain is of no concern here on the floor of the House. But I will allow the hon. government whip to answer.

Mr. Hawkes: Mr. Speaker, I want the House to know in absolute terms that no one from the New Democratic Party, official or person, has approached me personally with that kind of a question today. It was my understanding at our morning meeting that we were to get through second reading stage of Bill C-93 and we were to get Bill C-81 through report and third reading.