

*Business of the House*

about that; I am only saying that is an indication that we were perfectly within our rights—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. The hon. member is far from the subject matter, I suggest.

**Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood):** I respect your ruling, Mr. Speaker, and shall try to remain closely within the confines of the subject matter. I am complaining about the fact that we are being asked to have an all-night session. The hon. member for Hamilton West has pointed out with great clarity some of the things people do at all-night sessions of various kinds. We know that at social all-night sessions things happen of which there is not universal approval. And even at serious all-night sessions, which ours no doubt would be, the hon. member for Hamilton West has indicated just how fallible judgments can be. Indeed if judgments can be so fallible at four o'clock in the afternoon, what will they be like at four o'clock in the morning.

The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre has promised us that he will make a speech at four o'clock in the morning. If he does, I shall no doubt be here and have to listen to it. But I do not believe it will be one of his best efforts. It will not get into his biography, when it comes to be written.

Again I feel that no adequate reason has been given, and no attempt has been made to give a reason. Now that we have two such reasonable men—usually—as the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Fournier) and the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner) occupying the front benches, I suggest we have placed before them a proposal which would commend itself to any man of common sense. I trust that common sense will assert itself.

**Mr. Rodney Adamson (York West):** Mr. Speaker, in starting may I say I think this dog fight will do a great deal of good for the reason that perhaps it will emphasize the inadequacy of the rules of the house.

**Mr. Fulton:** The inadequacy of the government.

**Mr. Adamson:** I was a member of one of the rules committees and I made some suggestions—

**Mr. Fournier (Hull):** Mr. Speaker, we have on the order paper a motion concerning the rules of the house. I think the hon. member will admit that would be the proper time to discuss the rules, but on the amendment to sit until twelve o'clock I do not think the hon. member should enter into that particular subject.

[Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood).]

**Mr. Browne (St. John's West):** Can anyone else speak on this point of order? What we are dealing with now is a question of the hours.

**Mr. Fournier (Hull):** Under the rules.

**Mr. Browne (St. John's West):** Surely reference can be made to the rules which are going to be brought in affecting hours.

**Mr. Adamson:** Perhaps we should say "conduct". The amendment deals with the conduct of the session as does the motion to sit continuously in order to push through the remaining business.

**Mr. Fournier (Hull):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is now discussing the main motion, and I think the discussion should be limited to the amendment.

**Mr. Adamson:** I am discussing the amendment to the main motion. The amendment in many ways supplements and complements the main motion.

**Mr. Fournier (Hull):** Mr. Speaker, I take objection to that. It destroys the main motion.

**Mr. Adamson:** That of course is the minister's opinion.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member should refer to the particular amendment. I ask the hon. member to confine his remarks to the amendment.

**Mr. Graydon:** Put them both up for tender.

**Mr. Adamson:** The amendment extends the hours of sitting of the house this day. It has been brought about because of the delay in bringing forward legislation of vital importance to the house and the country. Sessions are unnecessarily prolonged causing such amendments to be necessary and desirable. It is a good thing that we are having this debate today.

**An hon. Member:** A wonderful thing.

**Mr. Adamson:** It brings out with crystal clarity, as several hon. members have said, the necessity for a change in the rules governing the conduct of legislation passing through the house. By this motion we are extending the hours of sitting. We are doing so for the reason that we are approaching the deadline of the Christmas festival, and it is desirable and necessary for hon. members to take part with their families in this supreme religious function of the year. If it were not for this deadline, if it were not what I shall term this squeeze play against Santa Claus, perhaps this whole business would not have come up and the debate would not have proceeded on its present terms. The reason we are in this situation