

*Business of the House*

time as we can get a Department of Consumer Affairs divorced from the claims of big business—and I urge the establishment of a Department of Consumer Affairs, period—I urge the minister to bend over backwards to strengthen his consumer branch. I urge him to reflect on the profound words of truth which he himself uttered in the budget debate of November 8, 1968, when he said:

In any event, the effects are no mystery to the victims of inflationary forces. These victims are the Canadians who are old, who are poor, who have no means of adapting their circumstances to the rapid change. They are not organized to insist that their incomes reflect rising price levels. They have no power to insist on a fair share. Citizens who enjoy no bargaining power cannot bargain for a better deal. A fixed income should not mean a fixed injustice.

Until the minister is willing to take the measures necessary to protect the consumer, to bargain for those who have no bargaining power, the fixed injustice will remain. I beg the minister to take additional measures, some of which I have tried to outline constructively tonight and which are essential if the consumer is to be protected.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** In accordance with section 5 of standing order 6, Mr. Chairman, may I ask, with the approval of the committee, to interrupt temporarily the work of the committee so that the house may be in a position to deal with a motion which I propose to move to extend this day's sitting?

**The Deputy Chairman:** The proceedings of the committee will be temporarily interrupted for the purpose of proposing a motion under section 5(a) of standing order 6.

Progress reported.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE****EXTENSION OF SITTING HOURS**

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 5(a) of standing order 6 I move, seconded by Mr. Andras:

That the committee do continue until 12 o'clock p.m. this day for the purpose of continuing consideration in committee of the whole of Bill C-173.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the said motion?

**Mr. Peters:** No, Mr. Speaker.

[Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway).]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** Order, please. The motion is not debatable. Accordingly, since less than ten hon. members have arisen—

**Mr. Peters:** Would you please put the question, Mr. Speaker.

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

[Translation]

**Mr. Laflamme:** Mr. Speaker, we would be ready to sit until 11 p.m.

[English]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the said motion?

*And less than ten members having risen:*

[Translation]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** And less than ten hon. members having risen, the motion is agreed to.

[English]

**Mr. Peters:** With respect, Mr. Speaker, I do not think you enunciated the rule under which you are proceeding. If an hon. member opposes the motion should not an additional motion be put?

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** According to the rules, if after the motion is put less than ten hon. members rise, the motion is deemed to be adopted.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. If somebody objects to the motion Your Honour is supposed to ask those opposed to it to stand. I think my hon. friend for Tim skaming meant that Your Honour had not asked hon. members to stand.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** Order, please. Will those hon. members opposed please rise?

*And less than ten hon. members having risen:*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** Fewer than ten hon. members having risen, the motion is deemed to have carried. The house will now resume in committee of the whole.

**Mr. McGrath:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the government house leader whether there will be debate at the normal time of adjournment. I have a very