

I will be horrified if there are very many Atlantic members, other than the members of the cabinet, who have read the bill and understand the implications of it, who would support this bill going through now. I would have no hesitation supporting this bill if we could come up with the offsets. Frankly, the Atlantic Provinces Transportation Commission and others in the Atlantic farm community understood our position.

We have the bill before us now and there has been no action on the offsets. I quite agree with the hon. member. I am just not going to support it as is.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Questions and comments are now terminated. Before we go into debate again, the hon. member for Mississauga South on a point of order.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

FINANCE—PRESENTATION OF FOURTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I would ask the unanimous consent of the House to present the fourth report of the Standing Committee of Finance in connection with the rules and procedures of committees.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Does the hon. member have unanimous consent?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Speaker, the fourth report deals with procedures in committees. If the House gives its consent, I intend to move concurrence in this report at this time. The concurrence would be seconded by the hon. member for Ontario.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is there unanimous consent to move concurrence?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Government Orders

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES RESTRAINT ACT

REFERRAL TO STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. Bill Kempling (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions with the other side and you will find that I have unanimous consent for the following motion:

That the reference to a Legislative Committee of Bill C-69, an act to amend certain statutes to enable restraint of government expenditures, be amended so that the Bill stands referred to the Standing Committee on Finance.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Does the parliamentary secretary have unanimous consent to introduce his motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

RAILWAY ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Lewis that Bill C-26, an act to amend the Railway Act (grain and flour subsidies) be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee; and on the amendment of Ms. Clancy (p. 8227).

• (1600)

Mr. Jerry Pickard (Essex—Kent): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that we did not quickly adjourn this time and are giving a fair hearing, in some ways, to Bill C-26. It is not quite as fair as it should be in that the rules for implementation of this bill were carried forth last summer. It is not fair because the government directed the rail subsidies to be altered last July. It is not fair to everyone involved. Nevertheless, it is a bill that has been brought forward by the government.