

the Hon. Member for Yukon (Ms. McLaughlin) does not agree with the motion to the effect that the committee will not travel to the Yukon, all she has to say is no, and then the committee does not travel until she is satisfied that the committee will go to the Yukon. Therefore, I cannot see the point.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) has perhaps added something helpful. I have to say to the Hon. Member for Yukon (Ms. McLaughlin) that while she may very well have a complaint, it may not be as great or as severe a complaint as she may have thought, in view of what has been said by the Hon. Minister of State (Mr. Lewis) on behalf of the Government. However, it is not a question of privilege. It is a matter arising out of a committee. As I say, the Hon. Member may now have received a response from the Government that may in fact be satisfactory. In any event, there are other remedies available to the Hon. Member, as has been pointed out. It is a matter of concern, of course, to this House, and the Hon. Member might take some comfort from the fact that Members on both sides have indicated the importance of the committee, of where it goes and the matter which it is discussing. I thank the Hon. member for her intervention.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

DISPOSITION OF BILL C-77

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend, the Deputy House Leader will be aware that yesterday business of the House of Commons moved particularly quickly. We were able to complete examination of a number of Bills somewhat unexpectedly because of the expeditious nature with which the various debaters addressed those Bills.

• (1540)

In all corners of the House it is recognized that Bill C-77 is an important piece of legislation. Because of the fact that the Minister was unable to make the presentation on behalf of the Government, the spokesperson for the Official Opposition was unable to respond, and the spokesperson for the New Democratic Party still had some remarks to make at the end of his presentation, I would suggest that the Minister consider reintroducing Bill C-77 to facilitate the consideration of that Bill as we would normally approach it. In other words, have the Minister introduce the Bill and provide ample opportunity for the opposition spokespersons to respond. I do not think that that is an unreasonable request.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, that is item No. 2(1) on the agenda for the House Leaders' meeting which will start immediately after the House moves to Orders of the Day. I am perfectly prepared to entertain some rearranging of that debate immediately. We will take care of that.

Patent Act

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the Day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

PATENT ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND—CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

The House resumed consideration of amendments made by the Senate to Bill C-22, an Act to amend the Patent Act and to provide for certain matters in relation thereto; and the motion of Mr. Andre (p. 10664).

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Comox—Powell River (Mr. Skelly) on a point of order.

Mr. Skelly: Mr. Speaker, after we left the debate this morning we were on a point of order considering a couple of very serious matters. One of them was an attempt to make a request of the Government House Leader to provide the House with an explanation of what the House will do as a result of the Senate refusing to pass legislation that came out of the House. This is an extremely important matter.

I would ask for unanimous consent to permit the Government House Leader to stand up and explain exactly what the House can do, as elected representatives of the people of Canada, to ensure that an unelected group of people in the other place do not override the legislation passed by the elected representatives.

With unanimous consent will the House Leader explain what progress has been made on the proposal submitted to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) to use the time before the passage of Meech Lake, when only seven provinces and 50 per cent are required, to eliminate the powers of the Senate, so that it will not again interfere with the legitimate passage of legislation by the elected people in the House of Commons?

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member rises on some matters of importance. He asked for unanimous consent to get into a discussion. It seems to me to be a long way from the matter that is presently before the House for debate. The House is the master of its own procedure.

The Hon. Member has asked for unanimous consent to hear remarks on behalf of the Government by one of the Ministers concerning the situation with respect to the views of the other place on a piece of legislation which is presently before this House.

I have some difficulty with that procedurally. I would probably have to consider it. I will not have to consider it at all if there is not unanimous consent.

Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.