

Government Orders

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Mr. Lapierre: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not consent, so I cannot proceed further.

The hon. member for Annapolis Valley—Hants on a quick point of order.

Mr. Nowlan: Very quickly, Mr. Speaker. Frankly I think the general purpose of the motion that is before the House will take care of any unfortunate eventualities that may occur. That is why we are here.

I have another sub-point of order which I perhaps would not want to try to get involved with here, but you talk about the opposition, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to be one—perhaps there are others—who question some of these motions which are agreed to by party consent. We have to think of other members besides the official recognized parties.

But in terms of the motion that my friend in the front row of the Liberal side has moved, the general adjournment motion takes care of it. It is then within the wisdom of the Chair, after consultation with leaders, as to whether the House goes back.

I will not presume on the House any further, but I have another point to raise later on.

An hon. member: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I have heard the hon. member for Annapolis Valley—Hants.

I have had to make a ruling on the motion from the official opposition. I just want members and the public to realize that when I referred to the opposition I was referring specifically to Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition because this is the motion we are dealing with. There is no suggestion that I am not concerned about other members of the opposition.

The hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre.

Mr. Axworthy (Winnipeg—South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. If it is your decision not to accept the proposal, I am sorry. We could accept the proposal except some of our hon. colleagues behind us to the left did not want to give it consent.

[*Translation*]

Unfortunately, it seems that certain members from the Bloc Quebecois are not very cooperative today.

[*English*]

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, we do have difficulty meeting the condition of the adjournment motion and where it says that we have the right to move an amendment, I would like to be able to move that amendment.

We could perhaps find one that would be acceptable, but in order to meet the conditions of the consent order for adjournment, we would have to be able to move an amendment that would be acceptable to the Speaker in the House. I am sure that with the able assistance of the Table, we could find the right words to do that.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's comment is greatly appreciated, by the Chair but needs unanimous consent at this time. Unfortunately for the member, it was not obtained and the decision is quite clear.

The hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier.

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I think I found a solution.

Mr. Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre): That is what we need.

Mr. Gauthier: The order adopted yesterday states clearly that each opposition party will be allowed to move an amendment or sub-amendment. You just said that the amendment moved by my colleague from Winnipeg South Centre is out of order because it is beyond the normal scope of an amendment.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker, you are correct when you say that the member for Winnipeg South Centre cannot resubmit another amendment, but the opposition has the right to submit an amendment.

I submit to you that another member of this House, in this case the whip of our party, could present an amendment which will be, I think, Mr. Speaker, acceptable to you.

• (1720)

Mr. Speaker: Before I rule on the intriguing question which has been put to me by the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier, the hon. member for Shefford.