

want the Chair to be placed in the position of finding this argument placed before it whenever a motion has been agreed to of the kind under which we are presently operating.

The other point is this. It is really in the hands of honourable Members, not in the hands of the Chair, as to when the amendment of the honourable Member for Winnipeg North Centre is dealt with. When it has been dealt with it will be open to other honourable Members to make amendments to the main motion. It seems to me that this is a matter for regulation between honourable Members, particularly those to the left of the Chair, to determine which honourable Members should have the opportunity to propose further amendments.

I say at once that if the subamendment proposed by the honourable Member for Abitibi had been proposed as an amendment to the main motion there would be no hesitation in my mind about accepting it. If I were in the Chair, if that subamendment were proposed as an amendment to the main motion, I would accept it. But the Chair has responsibilities from a procedural standpoint. What the honourable Member for Abitibi is asking the Chair to accept is a very reasonable amendment, but he is dealing with another subclause of Clause one.

The honourable Member for Lotbinière has argued very persuasively that as far as the question of relevance is concerned the amendment of the honourable Member for Winnipeg North Centre and the proposed subamendment both reduce the tax load falling upon the taxpayer. I have no difficulty in agreeing with that contention. The difficulty is that when an honourable Member proposes a subamendment he is under the constraint that he must not enlarge on, or differ in substance from, the amendment he is purporting to further amend. The amendment now before the House in the name of the honourable Member for Winnipeg North Centre deals with a specific subclause in Clause one and it would have the effect of reducing a tax right across the board. In passing, I would think that if, for example, the honourable Member had proposed a subamendment to that amendment by changing 2 per cent to 3 per cent, or 1 per cent, it might well be in order. But what the Chair has before it is a proposal which would change a different subclause dealing with employment expenses reductions. I cannot find that it is relevant to the amendment in the name of the honourable Member for Winnipeg North Centre. With regret, I shall have to rule on the basis of the precedents by which I must be guided and I am unable to put the proposed subamendment to the House.

Debate was resumed on the motion of Mr. Benson, seconded by Mr. Laing (Vancouver South),—That Bill C-259, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act and to make certain provisions and alterations in the statute law related to or consequential upon the amendments to that Act, be now read a third time and do pass.

And on the motion of Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre), seconded by Mr. Douglas, in amendment thereto,—That Bill C-259 be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back to the Committee of the Whole House for the purpose of reconsidering the proposed new section 117(1) as set out in clause 1 on pages 313 and 314, and in particular for the purpose of reconsidering the changing of the figure "17%" in line 33 on page 313 to "2%" and consequentially reducing the amount at the beginning of each of the paragraphs (b) to (m), both inclusive, on page 314, by \$75.

And debate continuing;

A Message was received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate had passed Bill C-273, An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending 31st March, 1972.

A Message was received from the Honourable Wishart F. Spence, O.B.E., Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, acting as Deputy Governor General, desiring the immediate attendance of the House in the Senate Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker went with the House to the Senate Chamber.

And being returned;

Mr. Speaker reported that, when the House did attend the Honourable the Deputy to His Excellency the Governor General in the Senate Chamber, His Honour was pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the Royal Assent to the following bills:

An Act respecting Central-Del Rio Oils Limited.

An Act respecting the Royal Victoria Hospital.

An Act to provide for the obtaining of information respecting weather modification activities.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had addressed the Honourable the Deputy to His Excellency the Governor General as follows:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

"The Commons of Canada have voted Supplies required to enable the Government to defray certain expenses of the public service.