

*Point of Order—Mr. Deans***POINT OF ORDER**

DECORUM IN THE CHAMBER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I beg your indulgence to allow me to raise a point of order with regard to a matter which was of some concern to me overnight.

I have had an opportunity to reflect upon the proceedings of yesterday; and I do not want to reflect upon them in the House because I recognize that that would be improper. However, I was wondering whether I might ask Your Honour to consider the possibility of inviting House Leaders to join with you at some point between now and an appropriate time in the near future to discuss ways and means which might be put in place to avoid a repetition of what occurred yesterday in the House of Commons.

Without placing blame in any way, yesterday's events were unfortunate. They reflected badly upon the House. Without in any way trying to dampen the exuberance of Hon. Members in the pursuit of their various and many responsibilities, if the question could be discussed among the House leadership, we might be able to come up with some informal way of trying to avoid any such repetition.

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans) and I have discussed the matter. I am glad to see that the Hon. House Leader of the Official Opposition is in the House now. I share the point of view. We discussed the advisability of having an opportunity as House Leaders, at Your Honour's request, to discuss ways in which we may consider, in the best interest of the House of Commons and the service we all want to perform on behalf of Canadians, methods of dealing with the question of decorum.

I whole-heartedly support and agree, as I indicated in discussions before with the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain, as have all House Leaders agreed on previous occasions. It is important for us to find methods by which we can in fact continue with free and unfettered debate on the floor of the House of Commons, while at the same time maintaining a sense of *decorum*. I think the people of Canada would applaud all Hon. Members of Parliament if they worked together toward that end. Mr. Speaker, if you are so inclined, I will be available at any time.

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, certainly as House Leader of the Official Opposition I have, as I hope have all Hon. Members of the House, an interest in the continued operation of this institution as an integral and central part of our process of governing. Therefore, I would be happy to have an exchange of views with my colleagues on the subject raised by the House Leader of the New Democratic Party.

I want to say, however, in this regard that what the House Leader of the New Democratic Party mentioned is something that should be of equal importance to all sides of the House. In this connection I think there is a particular responsibility, even

though I have said it is of importance to Members on all sides of the House, on those occupying the ministerial benches, because very often their approach to proceedings in the House has something to do with the attitude of the House as a whole.

Having said that, I would be very happy to meet with my colleagues to discuss this matter further.

Mr. Speaker: I thank the House Leaders. It should come of some interest to them to know that I asked my office to start calling their offices at about 10.45 this morning to try to arrange such a meeting.

Mr. Deans: I was on a green bus.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps I should have telephones installed in the green buses—no, not really.

• (1140)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CANADA SHIPPING ACT AND RELATED ACTS

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed from Wednesday, June 11, consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski that Bill C-75, an Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act and to amend the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, the Maritime Code Act and the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act in consequence thereof, be read the third time and passed.

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to carry on where I left off yesterday having made a very cursory examination of some of the problems that we in the Opposition in the Liberal Party see with Bill C-75. I might briefly review the three major points I made yesterday before I introduce new material for debate today.

Members will recall that I had concluded yesterday afternoon on behalf of my Party by saying that the Canada Shipping Act is some decades old, has been around for many years without amendment and undoubtedly needs a good housecleaning job and needs to be brought up to date. That is the Minister's responsibility, and failure to do otherwise would be a failure by the Minister to carry out his duties.

Bill C-75 started out as a good, sensible exercise, one supported by opposition Parties—the New Democratic Party and the Liberal Party—and the government benches but, more important, was an exercise in updating a decades old Bill supported by those clients of the Minister and, in particular, those clients affected by the Bill itself. Here I am talking about the people in Canada involved in the shipping industry. Whether we talk to those who run the great ships that ply the St. Lawrence Seaway, the great freighters that move across the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean into Canadian ports, those