

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Molson, seconded by the Honourable Senator McIlraith, P.C.:

That the Honourable Senator Manning, P.C., be asked by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and the Leader of the Opposition to occupy Seat Number 15 in the front row of the Chamber.—(*Honourable Senator Frith*).

Hon. Hartland de M. Molson: Honourable senators, Order No. 6 concerns a motion I made on June 10 last. I now ask leave of the Senate, under the authority of rule 23, to withdraw this motion.

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tem*: Is it agreed, honourable senators, that this motion be now withdrawn?

Hon. Jacques Flynn (Leader of the Opposition): Why does Senator Molson wish to withdraw this motion?

Senator Molson: Honourable senators, I made this motion under rule 46(s), which says that no notice is required for a motion that is uncontentious. It now appears that when the motion was made it was, in fact, contentious. I believe it should be withdrawn. I do not know whether my seconder, the Honourable Senator McIlraith, has anything to say on the matter, but that is my view.

Senator Flynn: Senator Molson says that the motion appears to be contentious. I don't see that.

Hon. Duff Roblin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Not here.

Senator Flynn: I don't see that, unless the fact that the order stands in the name of Senator Frith makes it contentious. Are we to assume Senator Frith's inaction is to be interpreted as opposition to the motion?

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, the debate will show that this motion, as a way of dealing with seat changes in the Senate chamber, is, in our view, worthy of further study, and in that sense it is contentious, yes.

Senator Flynn: Are you still studying the matter? I thought it would have been simpler to agree to the motion. So far as we are concerned, we would agree to it readily, even if it is not provided for in the rules. We would certainly not lose any sleep over the irregularity of the procedure.

Senator Frith: I was not thinking in terms of regularity or irregularity. The debate will show that as well. I am simply saying, in response to the observation made by Senator Molson, that the proposal is apparently contentious in the sense that it does not receive unanimous approval. In that sense Senator Molson is correct.

Senator Flynn: It is not receiving unanimous approval, meaning that you, for one, are opposed to it.

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tem*: Is it agreed, honourable senators, that this motion be now withdrawn?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Motion withdrawn and Order discharged.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

CONSIDERATION OF FIRST REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEE OF STANDING SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS—ORDER STANDS

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the consideration of the Report of the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs entitled: "Manpower in Canada's Armed Forces", tabled in the Senate on 10th February, 1982.—(*Honourable Senator Lafond*).

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, you will recall that Senator Lafond suggested that perhaps Senator Perrault would have something to say about this report, either on behalf of the Minister of National Defence or on behalf of the government. I believe that Senator Perrault does, indeed, have something to say on this order and, therefore, I ask that it stand until next week in Senator Perrault's name.

Order stands.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.