

compelling procedures and practices apply. Can the parliamentary secretary tell us if he found any precedent in any House of Commons for trying to do what he is doing here today?

Mr. Speaker: I do not want to cut the parliamentary secretary off, but I have listened very carefully to the arguments. I can assure hon. members that the Speaker is not in any doubt whatsoever about the issue that is in front of us.

If the hon. parliamentary secretary wishes to respond, I certainly will hear him. We have heard very full argument, and I do not want to keep this going all day.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I think your point is well taken. There has been long and effective argument. I will let my case rest at that.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to have to ask for the co-operation of the House. Under the circumstances—and it is not the first time we have done this by any means at all—I am going to ask the House to carry on with debate on this matter. I will try to return to the House as quickly as possible with an appropriate ruling.

Hon. Gerald S. Merrithew (for Mr. Andre) moved:

That, notwithstanding any Standing or Special Order of this House, the following Bills introduced in the Second Session of the Thirty-fourth Parliament be reinstated forthwith in this Session as follows:

An Act to amend the Railway Act (grain and flour subsidies), be deemed to have been introduced, read the first time and ordered to be printed, read a second time, referred to and reported by a Legislative Committee with an amendment, concurred in at report stage with an amendment and ordered for a third reading (Bill C-26);

An Act to amend the Young Offenders Act and the Criminal Code, be deemed to have been introduced, read the first time and ordered to be printed, read a second time, referred to and reported by a Legislative Committee with amendments (Bill C-58);

An Act to provide for the dissolution or transfer of certain Crown corporations and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof, be deemed to have been introduced, read the first time and ordered to be printed, read a second time, referred to and reported by a Legislative Committee with an amendment (Bill C-73);

An Act to establish a federal environmental assessment process, be deemed to have been introduced, read the first time and ordered to be printed, read a second time, and referred to Legislative Committee C (Bill C-78);

Government Orders

An Act to amend An Act to provide for the appointment of a Port Warden for the Harbour of Quebec and An Act to amend and consolidate the Acts relating to the office of Port Warden for the Harbour of Montreal, and to validate certain fees and charges established pursuant thereto, be deemed to have been introduced, read the first time and ordered to be printed, read a second time, referred to and reported by a Legislative Committee without amendment, concurred in at report stage and read a third time and passed (Bill C-82);

An Act to provide for certain matters respecting official languages, employees' pensions and labour relations in connection with the transfer of certain airports, be deemed to have been introduced, read the first time and ordered to be printed, read a second time, referred to and reported by a Legislative Committee without amendment (Bill C-85); and

That the evidence adduced and documents received by any Legislative, Standing or Special Committee of this House, in the Second Session of the Thirty-Fourth Parliament in relation to these bills, be deemed to have been referred to a Legislative or Standing Committee in this present session.

• (1130)

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I will not take a lot of time in this particular debate because what I essentially want to do is put on the record of the House of Commons just a quick discussion of the five bills that are part of this motion, not in a substantive way, but to address what we are trying to do with this particular motion, which is to bring them back at the stages they were at prior to prorogation.

Bill C-26, which is an act to amend the Railway Act, grain and flour subsidies, is an issue that has had a significant amount of time in this House. In fact, it had some three days at second reading stage, for a total of over nine hours. That ended, Mr. Speaker, on April 30. It was then in committee until somewhere around June 5, 1990, that bill came back and had three and a half hours at the report stage. The bill deals with a situation that is already in practice. What we are simply trying to do is to bring the legislative powers up to speed or up to date with what is already being practised. We, therefore, are anxious to continue with the report and third reading stages of this particular bill.

Bill C-58 is an act to amend the Young Offenders Act. It is a very important issue and one that is very much on the minds and in the thoughts of Canadians today. I saw an article in the newspaper just last week talking about the concerns people had with the opposition not allowing or, as it publicly stated, not co-operating with the speedy