

tion of privilege affecting the rights of parliament. My question of privilege is based on the publication of Routine Proceedings and Orders of the Day. I find at the bottom of page 21 a private member's notice of motion standing in the name of the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Choquette) which reads as follows:

That, in the opinion of this house, the government should consider the possibility of symbolizing the supreme authority of this country in an authentically Canadian manner other than by the British crown and of amending the constitution accordingly.

I submit, sir, that a motion like this should never have been permitted to appear on the order paper. It is calculated to subvert the constitution, and it is in contravention of a member's oath of allegiance. I accordingly move, seconded by the hon. member for Perth (Mr. Monteith), that this motion be struck from the order paper.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Pugh: You should have had Ralph Cowan second that.

Mr. Choquette: Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I hesitate to allow a debate on this matter. I will receive the motion written by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre and give a ruling on it. I will at least read the motion.

After reading the motion proposed by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre—

Mr. Knowles: Oh, no.

Mr. Speaker:—by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre, I must come to the conclusion that the motion cannot be moved at this time. There is no possible way I can think of, according to the rules of the house, by which a member can rise and propose such a substantive motion, because this is substantially a substantive motion, without due notice. The hon. member may wish to find some other way to propose this motion which would be acceptable under the rules.

There is a point of order which is entirely different from the motion proposed by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre. He states that the motion in the name of the hon. member for Lotbinière should not have been accepted. There may be arguments in favour of the proposition advanced by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre, and if he will allow me to do so I will take that point under consideration and in due course, because I do

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not think it is a matter of extreme urgency, render a decision as to whether it is in order to allow this type of motion to be on the order paper.

[Later:]

Mr. Auguste Choquette (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Acting Prime Minister. Is it the intention of the Acting Prime Minister to consider the motion presented by the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Bell) suggesting that we should abolish the royal power of dissolution? I ask this question so hon. members can see there are on the other side of the house some people who are anti-crown.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF PRIVY COUNCIL ESTIMATES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the President of the Privy Council. I wonder whether the President of the Privy Council would discuss with the government house leader the possibility of having the estimates of his department referred to one of the standing committees, so that committee might have an opportunity to consider the matters that are under his responsibility.

Hon. Walter L. Gordon (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to discuss that matter with the house leader.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

INQUIRY AS TO BROADCASTING OF COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Stanbury (York-Scarborough): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the house leader as chairman of the committee on procedure. How soon can we expect action by the procedure committee on the suggestion put forward by the broadcasting and agriculture committees, and endorsed by the Prime Minister last week, that electronic news media be given full access to parliamentary committees?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I hope the committee on procedure will meet at an early date. We will be happy to consider this proposal within the committee, and following that consideration will be able to give a more definite opinion.