

Mr. Hnatyshyn: He has only made specific reference, Mr. Speaker, to the content of *The Ottawa Citizen* which was raised by the Leader of the New Democratic Party.

I have one word in my final submission to you, Your Honour. In the case of precedents where there have been documents quoted from by way of letters or other state papers and there has been by way of agreement the tabling by Ministers of certain documents, that has occurred where specific quotations have been used in support of arguments made by Ministers.

Mr. Deans: That is what he did.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: In this particular instance that was not the case, I suggest, Mr. Speaker. I think on the basis of the submission made, the Opposition is attempting only to get information which may or may not be in existence and which it is unable to obtain in other ways through the Question Period.

Mr. Deans: If I may, I have one final point, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I raise only one final point. The Government House Leader was clearly not listening. The Minister made specific reference to a memorandum he had received from his Ministry officials. He went further and quoted what the memorandum contained by way of a projection for the years 1985 and 1986 specifically.

I would ask you, Sir, if you are in a position to render a judgment—and, of course, you ought to—and if it is to be based on the suggestion of the Hon. Government House Leader that somehow the Minister made no such reference, that you await receiving the record of *Hansard* to determine whether or not, at least on the basis of that part of the argument, there is any validity to the suggestion made by the House Leader for the Government that we do not have the basis for a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: I must advise Hon. Members that I intend not to make a judgment today. I think it would be fair to the House that my first ruling should be reserved, even if I did know the answer.

I want to say to the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain that I listened extremely carefully, as he would expect, to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) the moment the Minister of Finance began to refer to some conclusions, as I remember. However, I want to check the blues. I say this to the Hon. Member because there are two points here. Beauchesne is absolutely clear in Citation 327(4) that the document must be quoted. The consequential problem is that this House has always dealt separately with the use of documents and points of order relating to documents with regard to Question Period. It has always done that according to my reading of the Jerome precedents and before that. Before I could evaluate that, I would have to determine, I think, whether a document had been quoted or whether in fact, as I thought I heard—which is

Petitions

why I want to check the blues before I say anything finally—the Minister referred to the general conclusions of a document as opposed to specifically quoting a document.

If that is true, then I suggest a point of order on the second part of the concern does not follow because a document has not for the purposes of the House been specifically quoted.

Mr. Deans: It does not have to be.

Mr. Speaker: With respect to the Hon. Member and with respect to all our newness to this question, I intend to reserve on the matter and to check the blues. I shall be back to the House in this regard.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, could I ask you to consider one further aspect in reviewing the blues and also in reviewing the precedents. I note in looking at Citation 327 on pages 115 and 116 of Beauchesne that there seems to be a distinction made in the precedents between citing and quoting. I refer, for example, to paragraph 3 on page 116 of Citation 327 which reads:

A public document referred to but not cited or quoted by a Minister need not be tabled.

I respectfully ask you to consider, Sir, whether the Minister of Finance might still be obliged to table the document even though technically he may not have quoted it, but instead if he in fact did something which falls within the ambit of the precedent; that is to say, if he in fact cited a document.

Mr. Speaker: I take the advice of the Hon. Member and I will consider all the arguments.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

PEACE AND SECURITY POLICIES

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 71, I rise to bring to the attention of Parliament a petition signed by many of my constituents and, in total, by some 450,000 Canadians, calling for certain changes in current Canadian international peace and security policies, particularly concerning nuclear arms. I understand that representatives of the other Parties will be joining me in putting this petition to the House.

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago I joined with the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) and a representative of the New Democratic Party to receive petitions gathered by the Peace Petition Caravan from some 436,000 Canadians, the largest coalition of groups yet established under the disarmament issue. I am, therefore, pleased to present some of these petitions to this House for its consideration. The issues raised in them, connect-