

Section 10 of the Senate and House of Commons Act provides that: “—(a) no person accepting or holding any office, commission or employment...to which any salary, fee, wages, allowance, emolument, or profit of any kind is attached...is eligible as a member of the House of Commons—”.

To my way of thinking, the argument is not whether public money might accrue to a Member; rather the question is whether any Member can be nominated by the Crown, or by an Officer of the Crown, to an office to which an emolument or financial benefit attaches. In effect, the proposed motion removes the provision in the act that excludes Members from such an office when the nomination is made by the Crown.

I recognize that the honourable Member for Cochrane has a very strong point when he says that the International Development Research Centre Act was amended in terms very similar to those now proposed in the amendment of the honourable Member. I must say that, in my view, if that amendment had been submitted to the Chair for consideration it would in all likelihood have been declared out of order. As the honourable Member knows, this amendment was introduced at the committee stage and came before the House as part of the bill that was reported by the committee and was adopted with the other clauses of the bill. Therefore the point was not submitted to the Chair for consideration.

In looking at the bill at the time the amendment was proposed, I had very serious doubts as to whether it was in order and whether the act could be reconciled with the other statute it, in effect, amended without saying so. For those reasons I must conclude that the motion proposed by the honourable Member should not be put to the House.

I have reservations also in that the whole matter to which this amendment refers is now still before the Committee on Privileges and Elections. In any event there has been no report as far as I know on that reference to the committee. The honourable Member was kind enough to agree to a suggestion made by the Chair some time ago that the bill he proposed be withdrawn and that the subject-matter thereof be referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections. That matter is still before the committee and I doubt very much whether there should be an attempt made at this time to settle the matter through an amendment to the act while the matter is still under consideration by a Committee of this House.

For all those reasons I regret very much having to conclude and rule that the honourable Member's motion cannot be put at this time.

Mr. Brewin for Mr. Burton, seconded by Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre), moved,—That Bill C-219, An Act to establish the Canada Development Corporation, be amended by substituting the words “five per cent” for

the words “three per cent” in subclause (3) of Clause 2 of Schedule I.

After debate thereon, the question being put on the said motion, pursuant to section 11 of Standing Order 75, a recorded division was deferred.

Agreed,—That recorded divisions on the said bill pursuant to Standing Order 75(11) be deferred until 8:00 o'clock p.m. Tuesday, June 8, 1971, and that third reading of the said bill may be proceeded with at the same sitting.

The Order being read for the report stage of Bill C-239, An Act to amend the Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Agriculture;

STATEMENT BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: The Chair has studied the motions proposed under Bill C-239, An Act to amend the Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act, and I should like to suggest for consideration of honourable Members the following procedure which might well be followed. I would suggest, firstly, that motion numbered 1 should be put and disposed of separately. Then motions numbered 2, 3, 4 and 5 might be grouped for purposes of debate and a vote on motion numbered 2 would dispose of all the said motions. Motion numbered 6 might be considered and disposed of separately. Motion numbered 7 might create procedural difficulties because at least at first blush there would appear to be financial implications. The Chair, however, would hear argument when motion numbered 7 is called. If honourable Members are in agreement with the suggestions I am making now these motions will be put and considered as now suggested.

It is brought to my attention that motions numbered 8 and 9 should also be referred to at this time. The suggestion I should like to make to the House is that they be considered and disposed of separately.

Mr. Lang (Saskatoon-Humboldt), seconded by Mr. Laing (Vancouver South), moved,—That Bill C-239, An Act to amend the Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act, be amended by striking out lines 34 and 35 on page 2 and substituting the following:

“grain of any kind to the Board in a crop year under”

And debate arising thereon;

[At 5.00 o'clock p.m., Private Members' Business was called pursuant to Standing Order 15(4)]

(Notices of Motions)

By unanimous consent, item numbered twenty-one was allowed to stand and retain its position.