

No. 186

JOURNALS

OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

OF CANADA

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1973

2.00 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS

A point of order having been raised by the honourable Member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), in relation to the position in which the notices of motions standing in the names of the honourable Members for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) and Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams), for concurrence in the Sixth Report of the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates should stand in this day's Order of Business and Notices;

RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

MR. SPEAKER: I am not sure whether I can assume that all that might be said for or against the point of order raised by the honourable Member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) has now been said. I had thought for awhile that perhaps I should reserve my decision and think about it, but in all honesty I have to tell honourable Members that since the notices were given to the Table yesterday by the honourable Member for Calgary North and the honourable Member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) I was placed in the situation where I had to give serious consideration to the whole matter.

The weakness I see in the point made by the honourable Member for Winnipeg North Centre when he refers to motions already on the Order Paper is that he does not

take into account a point of order raised I think on June 15 or June 16 followed by a ruling which was made on June 18.

At that time the Chair received the benefit of excellent advice which was given by honourable Members who went at length into this matter and gave their opinions. After considering the advice and counsel given by Members, the Chair felt at the time that the only way this type of motion could be considered was on an allotted day as business of supply. It would be very difficult for the Chair to reach any other decision. When honourable Members look at Standing Order 58(16) they will see it states: "There shall be no debate on any motion to concur in the report of any standing committee on estimates which have been referred to it except on an allotted day."

How could the Chair rule that there could be a debate on the Report which we now have before us on a day other than an allotted day as part of the business of supply? I think I would be remiss in my responsibilities if I ruled in any other way. I think the House itself would embark on a rather dangerous procedure if, when we referred estimates to a committee and received substantive reports on the motions, which I think could legitimately be considered by the committee, we received the