Supply

Beauchesne's applies directly in this case. The effect of the motion put forward by Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition is to change the subject of the debate so radically as to offend against the traditions of Supply days. This is always a difficult matter for the Speaker, but I think that Hon. Members know we have strong traditions about motions put forward for debate on days allocated for Supply.

Maybe I should just enunciate those two principles in brief before I make a final ruling. The Government House Leader referred to them. The first principle is that the amendment must not change the direction or impact or thrust of the main motion. The second is that the spirit of fair play, which has been ruled on in this matter before, requires that the allotted days should not be taken away from the mover of the motion by means of another Member moving and amendment. Those are the two principles followed by this House for some years on allotted days.

I might also add, when deciding whether an amendment is in order as an amendment, notwithstanding whether or not it negates the motion, there is another test that can be used as a simple rule of thumb, that is, to see whether the amendment could stand alone as a separate motion and be debated separately. That, it seems to me, applies in this case. The motion as moved could form an additional motion for another day. However, on balance I find that Citation 482 does apply directly and I must therefore indicate, with all due respect, that the amendment is, in my view, out of order.

We will resume debate with the Hon. Member for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke (Mr. Hopkins).

Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke): Mr. Speaker, I understand that when I was interrupted at one o'clock I had about six minutes left. At that time I said I was going to mention something which has very seldom been mentioned in this House. I was talking about superpowers. In making the statement I am about to make I do not want to seem self-righteous because I would like to think that my sins are no greater, and hopefully no lesser, than those of my colleagues on either side of this House. But when we talk about superpowers and get tied up in this debate at the humanitarian level, I would like to say to my colleagues that there is only one superpower, only one Supreme Being on the face of the earth. God is supreme. Certainly in this debate, when we talk about saving humanity, that must come into play. Our Maker created us all. He gave us talents, understanding and the ability to communicate. It is up to us to make use of those abilities. Both Mr. Chernenko and President Reagan have said that a nuclear war cannot be won and must not be fought. We hope that this will be the attitude when these gentlemen meet. We hope also that what follows will be a greater emphasis on the reduction of conventional armaments. Today veterans of the two World Wars and the Korean war will tell us that conventional wars are no picnic either.

In the interests of the coming talks between the United States and the Soviet Union, Mr. Speaker, I feel that we as parliamentarians should suggest that in all places of religious worship, people, regardless of creed or culture, set aside a special day of world-wide prayer for the success of the coming

disarmament negotitions between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. This will emphasize the importance of this subject to all people, as it must be emphasized.

We are all children of the same Creator. If there ever was a time when we all need spiritual guidance and moral and political commitment, and political will, it is now. If we do not use all our human talents, all our moral and political will, to promote a solid solution, something other than just a piece of paper, then we are not keeping faith with those who died in previous wars, those whom we honour every November 11. In a debate such as this, we should say that in our minds every day of the year must be a November 11.

We must also think of our own generation and of the generations to come, Mr. Speaker. I have before me a book on the Chamberlains. I was going to read a paragraph spoken by Neville Chamberlain to the nation on radio at 11.15 a.m., on Sunday, September 3, 1939, when the Germans entered Poland. I do not have time to do that, but I do want to read what he said to the House of Commons that afternoon. He said:

This is a sad day for all of us and for none is it sadder than for me. Everything that I have worked for, everything that I have hoped for, everything that I believed in during my public life has crashed into ruins.

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I say to the people in every democratic nation and every nation of the world that now is the time for us to take that speech seriously because none of us wants to be guilty of contributing to the ruins that would be far-reaching and far beyond anything ever dreamed of on September 3, 1939.

We look back today to the great leaders in foreign affairs, such as the Right Hon. Lester B. Pearson, the Right Hon. Louis St. Laurent, the Right Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau and his peace mission, and to many others who have contributed greatly through the United Nations and other organizations. We in the Liberal Party, Mr. Speaker, are proud of the background of those people who have done so much. It is our commitment to work toward good diplomacy and solid agreements and to work with our friends throughout the world.

I would like to refer to the last sentence in the motion before us today which reads: "thereby rejecting the position of the previous administration." This is the motion of the Hon. Member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent), the Leader of the New Democratic Party.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): I regret that the Hon. Member's time is up.

Hon. Robert C. Coates (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to put forward and explain yet again for the benefit to the NDP the Government's position on the nuclear freeze. Simply put, we do not favour proposals for a U.S.A.-U.S.S.R. nuclear freeze at existing levels. Mutual security is not enhanced if current imbalances are locked in, as they would be in Europe. At the same time, as