

*Interim Supply*

the resolution it might be in order, but it refers to something which is not before the committee at this time.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Chairman, perhaps this would meet the point Your Honour has just raised. I move:

That the total amount requested by the Minister of Finance be reduced by one sixth of the amount specified in item No. 164 of the estimates.

**The Chairman:** I do not think I made myself clear. What I was suggesting to the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate was that he attempt to tie his amendment to the resolution which is before the committee. In the wording of the amendment he has just read the hon. member refers again to the estimates and not the resolution before the committee. If it were one sixth of the amount requested in paragraph (a) of this motion, for instance, it would be in order. I can hardly make myself clearer than I have now.

**Mr. Chevrier:** Mr. Chairman, in order to follow your suggestion may I move the amendment in this wording—

**Mr. Aiken:** Mr. Chairman—

**Mr. Chevrier:** I am speaking to a point of order.

**Mr. Aiken:**—we have one point before the committee at the moment.

**Mr. Chevrier:** I should like to move, Mr. Chairman—

**The Chairman:** Order. I think it should be indicated that I have ruled the proposed amendment out of order. Therefore, if the hon. member for Laurier wishes to move another amendment he is free to do so.

**Mr. Chevrier:** That is what I propose to do, Mr. Chairman, in trying to follow your suggestion. I move:

That the amount requested by the Minister of Finance in the first item of interim supply now before the committee, namely (a), one sixth of all the items in the amount of \$593,558,978.34 be reduced by \$10,000.

**Mr. Lambert:** Mr. Chairman, on a point of order—

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Chairman, I should like to speak to this question.

**The Chairman:** I understand that the hon. member for Edmonton West has raised a point of order.

**Mr. Lambert:** Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that this amendment is out of order to the extent that if this were accepted and disposed of then it would be open to any hon. member to move an amendment to any item—

[The Chairman.]

**Mr. Benidickson:** Why not? That is what we are here for.

**Mr. Lambert:** It would then be in order for any hon. member to move seriatim through all the estimates and that would occupy the whole time of this committee until the expiry of the interim period, and then we would go through the same thing again throughout the whole of the year. That was never in the contemplation of the rules of the house nor was it in the understanding of hon. gentlemen opposite when they sat on this side of the chamber or sat where they sit presently.

**Mr. Hellyer:** The hon. member is 400 years out of date. One of King John's councillors.

**The Chairman:** I cannot accept the point raised by the hon. member for Edmonton West because it is clearly stated in citation No. 242 of Beauchesne's fourth edition:

242. (2) The only motion allowed, when a resolution is under consideration in committee of supply, is that the amount be reduced or that the chairman leave the chair—

I therefore rule the amendment in order. Is the committee ready for the question?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Chairman, in support of this motion I state that we are face to face with government figures which show an alarming increase in the unemployment picture in Canada. When I was dealing with this matter a few moments ago I indicated that so serious is our situation that Canada tops the list of countries in the western world with regard to this problem.

In dealing with the situation in the United Kingdom, I pointed out that in a country of 50 million people with a working force of 23 million there were only 450,000 people representing 2 per cent of the labour force—

**The Chairman:** Order. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member but I would point out to him that the amendment does not refer to labour or unemployment but to the general estimates and calls for a reduction of \$10,000.

**Mr. Chevrier:** On the point of order, Mr. Chairman, may I bring to your attention the fact that the amendment has to do with the "(a)" part of interim supply, namely, one-sixth of all the items, \$593 million odd, which covers all of the items. This is a reduction of \$10,000 in all of the items and, therefore, I think that the hon. member is in order in discussing one of the items in that over-all picture.

**The Chairman:** In my opinion the amendment does not change the picture from what it was before the amendment was moved. The view I expressed then is the same that