

The Budget—Mr. Caron

during the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne or on the Budget speech introduced by any Minister of Finance including the present minister who is the sharpest of all those we have known during the last four years.

Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, the Chair should recognize those facts and grant the member for Hull the necessary leeway, letting him express his views just as was done in the case of the hon. member for Carleton who said all he had to say against the province of Quebec.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I would refer hon. members to a statement made a day or so ago by Mr. Speaker. He referred to the question of urgency of debate. The hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert) drew attention to the fact that the immediate business of this house was the continuation of the Budget debate and that there should be no discussion of this matter in the next four or five days. At this time Mr. Speaker went on to say:

I agree with the hon. member to this extent. This matter cannot be discussed while there is a motion of non-confidence before the house, and while there are before us an amendment and a subamendment, both dealing with financial matters.

I would refer that statement of Mr. Speaker to the hon. member for Hull (Mr. Caron) and to the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette).

The hon. member for Hull.

Mr. Caron: Mr. Speaker, I will try to abide by your ruling, although I find it very hard because in the past—and I have been here since 1953—I never heard anyone interfere with a speech on the Budget or a speech in the Debate in Reply to the Speech from the Throne. I am surprised that I am forced at this time to speak only on the amendment which is before the house, because I have been speaking on the main matter of the Budget itself and have been following the practice established by others. I do not see why I should be stopped on this.

● (9:10 p.m.)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, the immigrants who came to Canada knew they had to learn either English or French, while we, who have been here from the beginning of the settlement, who were defeated on the Plains of Abraham and have lived near the English for centuries, have understood the necessity of knowing those two essential languages.

That is why I wish to congratulate the Prime Minister for the work he has accomplished in order to give us the opportunity of speaking both languages in Canada. I know it is difficult, that it will take years; but I know that since 1918 there has been talk of additional pay for those who are bilingual but nothing ever came of it.

The Prime Minister told us last week that we would probably have that within a year. I have faith in him as the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette) has faith in the minister, Mr. Sharp, who is the sharpest of all the ministers we have had. I am confident that we will have bilingual people in the civil service. That is why I congratulate him—

Mr. Caouette: The Postmaster General (Mr. Côté) is the worst.

Mr. Caron: The Postmaster General is a good guy; I have nothing to say against him. I admit that he does his work well and I wrote him again today; I hope he will reply.

Mr. Caouette: He is a unilingual who does not believe in bilingualism.

Mr. Caron: He will get used to it just the same. You know, it sometimes happens that a new minister does not accept federal principles, but in the end he falls into the federal mold and accepts everything. That is what he will accept in the end.

Two races must live side by side in our country. That is why those who come from all over the world to settle in Canada—

Mr. Caouette: Once more.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I must remind the hon. member that his remarks are now outside the amendment before the house.

Mr. Caron: Mr. Speaker, I cannot accept that ruling. What we do—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Will the hon. member resume his seat, please? I should like to refer again to a statement made by Mr. Speaker with reference to this matter a day or so ago. He said that any attempt to discuss this subject matter on the motion now before the house would be out of order because of irrelevancy. I point out to the hon. member for Hull (Mr. Caron) that the remarks which he is now making are not relevant to the amendment now before the house.