

Emergencies Act

Finally, in a case similar to the one now before the House, Speaker Bosley confirmed numerous rulings by his predecessors when, on November 14, 1984, he said, as reported at page 220 of the *House of Commons Debates*:

It seems to me that when a Minister is specifically questioned about a document and he refers to that document in the course of his reply, it would be difficult to find that he was attempting to influence debate.

[Translation]

Although the Hon. Member for Regina West contended that there are reasons to establish a precedent on this point, I do not intend to move away from the uniform interpretations of my predecessors and to give the term "cite" a new procedurally different meaning.

[English]

As to whether the Minister actually quoted from a document, the Minister's statement on March 29 that he has no such study, that he did not quote from any such study and that he has nothing that he could table, stands on its own and, according to our tradition, the House must accept his word.

I therefore must conclude that, since the Minister has not actually quoted from the "CN's studies", he is not obliged to table the document in question.

I thank the Hon. Member for Regina West for the opportunity to clarify this important aspect of our procedure, but I also say to the Hon. Member, having listened very carefully to both the question and the answer and having considered very carefully the argument of the Hon. Member for Regina West, I think it might be fair to observe that Ministers perhaps could avoid applications of this kind by being very careful not to leave in the minds of questioners that there may be a document which, naturally, anybody asking questions in the House would seek to have tabled. I thank both the Hon. Member and the Hon. Minister for their interventions.

● (1510)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS*[English]***EMERGENCIES ACT****MEASURE TO ENACT**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Beatty that Bill C-77, an Act to authorize the taking of special temporary measures to ensure safety and security during national emergencies and to amend other Acts in consequence thereof, be read the third time and passed.

Mr. Speaker: I should advise the House that when the House rose at 1 p.m., the Hon. Member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez) had the floor. I now recognize the Hon. Member for Thunder Bay—Atikokan (Mr. Angus) on a point of order.

Mr. Angus: Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions among representatives of all Parties, and I believe you will find unanimous consent to allow the Member for Spadina (Mr. Heap) to complete the time allocated to the Member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez).

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the proposition of the Hon. Member. Is there agreement?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Minister of State (Mr. Lewis) on a point of order.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions among representatives of all Parties, and I think you will find consent for the following motion to go forward immediately:

That, when the debate on the motion for third reading of Bill C-77, an Act to authorize the taking of special temporary measures to ensure safety and security during national emergencies and to amend other Acts in consequence thereof, has been concluded, the said debate shall stand adjourned until 6:00 o'clock p.m., Wednesday, April 27, 1988, at which time, Mr. Speaker shall put every question necessary to dispose of the third reading stage of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Before proceeding with debate, I shall hear the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier).

Mr. Gauthier: On a point of clarification, I take it the Government is also agreeing that it will not invoke Standing Order 9(4)(a) at any stage in this debate.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Minister, in reply.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, there has been excellent cooperation on the part of all Parties on Bill C-77, with the result that we see no necessity of going that route on this particular Bill.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Thunder Bay—Atikokan (Mr. Angus).

Mr. Angus: Mr. Speaker, I just wish to confirm our support for the motion. We think it is an appropriate way of dealing with this matter.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion. Is there agreement?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the suggestion that the Hon. Member for Spadina (Mr. Heap) be now heard in debate. Is there agreement?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Spadina (Mr. Heap) on debate.

Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, at the outset I wish to thank Hon. Members for accommodating me as I have a plane to catch later in the afternoon. I regard Bill C-77 as an