

Wednesday, November 22nd/44

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MR. GRAYDON:

I take the position I do, Mr. Speaker, largely because the issue is so important, so vital, and carries such a tremendous weight of judgment of the Canadian people as a whole. We feel that immediately—and I call upon the Prime Minister to take this action—we should begin the debate which will bring before this parliament the real issue that the Canadian people want brought before it. In my opinion that issue is that the full provisions of the National Resources Mobilization Act should be put into effect at once and that all trained troops in the Canadian home defence army should immediately be dispatched for reinforcements overseas. That is the issue that faces this parliament. All other issues are fads and frills and will be so regarded by a boiled-up public opinion throughout Canada which is so conscious of the issues which face this house.

Therefore in view of the fact that I understand the Prime Minister is not going to bring before this house to-day a confidence motion or any other kind of government motion with respect to this matter, I ask you, Mr. Speaker, to allow me to move, seconded by the hon. member for Lake Centre (Mr. Diefenbaker):

That this house is of the opinion that the full provisions of the National Resources Mobilization Act should be put into effect forthwith;

And that all trained troops in the Canadian home defence army should immediately be dispatched for reinforcements overseas.

Mr. SPEAKER: The leader of the opposition (Mr. Graydon) understands, I think, that there is nothing before the house at the moment.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): He is trying to get something there.

Mr. SPEAKER: Did I understand the hon. member for York-Sunbury to say, "He is trying to get something there"? There are certain rules which must be observed before that can be done. No notice has been given of this motion.

Mr. GRAYDON: No notice could have been given.

Mr. SPEAKER: I cannot decide that. All I can decide is that 'forty-eight hours' notice must be given and the rules so provide. Under the rules I have no authority to submit this motion to the house and therefore I must rule it out of order.

Mr. GRAYDON: I understand Your Honour has ruled that this motion may not be debated at this time.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no point of order. I am only stating what the rule is. There is no point of order involved.

Mr. GRAYDON: May I ask you, Mr. Speaker, to obtain the unanimous consent of the house to permit me to introduce this motion?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am vested with the authority to interpret the rules of the house. I have already stated the rule and the leader of the opposition is well aware of the rule. There must be at least forty-eight hours' notice before a motion such as this can be presented to the house. If there had been any intention—

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. SPEAKER: I cannot allow a discussion on my ruling. If there had been a desire or an intention to have such a motion presented there has been time since the last adjournment of the house to the present moment whereby the orders of the day could have been printed and brought before the house; but in the meantime I am discussing only the power of the chair to accept the motion that is now submitted. In interpreting the rules may I say that I cannot accept the motion because it is not in conformity with the rule. The hon. member for—

Mr. GRAYDON: May I be allowed to appeal Your Honour's ruling?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. This is a matter that has already been discussed in the house. There is no appeal. I am not dealing with a point of order. I am dealing only with the interpretation of a rule. There is no point of order and therefore no appeal.