

Supply

to try to quarrel with statements of other hon. members. I will certainly see that the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate or the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings or any other member is recognized to make their contribution on this particular point if they feel that point should be dealt with. I now call on the hon. member for York South.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, the first thing I should like to say is that it is obvious that members of this House were exceedingly wise in asking you to be deputy speaker of this House of Commons—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis:—in view of your evident wisdom and impartiality. The second point I should like to make, Mr. Speaker, is that I do not withdraw the statement that I made,—

Mr. Alexander: Shame!

Mr. Lewis:—nor do I withdraw one word of that statement.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Lewis: I was coming, Mr. Speaker, to the fact that as I listened to the hon. Leader of the Opposition he gave me the impression that, speaking later in the debate, which meant the speech he has just finished, he would tell this House in the language of the motion—that was the impression I got—at precisely what figure he wants to see old age pensions established. He then referred, and I hope I have the correct page number, to *Hansard* of May 15, 1972, page 2264, where he is reported to have said:

These pensioners, who have been bearing the brunt of inflation ever since January 1, 1967, should have been awarded an increase in their basic pension sufficient to compensate them adequately for the deterioration in purchasing power which has taken place since the last major change late in 1966. This would involve an adjustment, not of \$2.88 but of nearly \$15 a month in the basic pension. I have no hesitation in saying that the government I expect to lead shortly will do just that.

I remind hon. members that the figure was \$15, on top of \$80, which would have given a pension of \$95. If this is still the policy of the hon. Leader of the Opposition and his party, I hope he will state that policy when the pension bill comes before this House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I want to say to you, Mr. Speaker, and to hon. members of this House that such level of basic old age pension would not satisfy my colleagues and myself.

I rise to speak also because we have been through some steps in this parliament that have been very disturbing to anybody who watches it with an objective eye. The hon. Leader of the Opposition said that he was rising not to oppose this bill and later on in his speech he said "I repeat that I have not risen to oppose this bill". He should have informed some of the members in his party that was his intention, that he was not opposing any of the supplementary estimates, because members of his party had nine motions of opposition to the supplementary estimates. He

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

says that he is not opposing the proposed winter works program. He says it is not enough. Of course, it isn't. I will have a word to say about that in a moment. Although he was not opposing it, there was a motion to oppose by one of the Conservative members. It was the request of the provinces and municipalities of this country that the winter works programs be arranged for a period of years so that they could plan and prepare for them. However, the Conservative party said "No. We want to limit it only to this year; \$75 million and no more."

• (1610)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: That was the motion on the order paper.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I cannot allow such a canard to go unanswered, particularly when it is being done deliberately and for his own political advantage by the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis).

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nielsen: It was made clear throughout the debates in committee and here that the reason for the notices of opposition was to enable debates and for no other purpose.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Alexander: He knows that.

Mr. Nielsen: It was further made clear that we intended to permit those items to pass without recorded division. The point of order I raise has to do with—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Nielsen: If Your Honour will prevent the howling from hon. members to my left and opposite, I will quote Standing Order 35 which prevents the hon. member for York South from reflecting upon any vote of the House. I quote:

No member may reflect upon any vote of the House, except for the purpose of moving that such vote be rescinded.

In his remarks, the hon. member for York South is attempting to reflect upon a vote that was taken this morning and yesterday. I submit that he cannot do this. I further submit that the hon. member for York South should be the gentleman that he is supposed to be in this House and stop playing politics with these issues.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps I could amplify the remarks I made earlier about points being points of debate rather than points of order.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I refer hon. members to citation 113 in the fourth edition of Beauchesne's Parliamentary