

That is what I understand, and yet he calls that an interference with the rights of the Government. That may be true if provision is not made in the present Bill, or in the amendment, to provide that the old Act remain in force. The old rates remain in force until Parliament has accepted the new schedule of rates, as proposed by the Postmaster General. Now I point out to the Postmaster General that he has put himself in the same position as this amendment would place him in, and how is that? We take his own amendment, leave aside the amendment of the senator from Toronto, and what will happen? He cannot establish a schedule of rates in twenty-four hours; it will take him and the officers of his department some time to establish that schedule of rates; and then what happens? He and his deputy and his officers have established and fixed the rates, the next step is to go to the Treasury Board and have that—

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—That is not the point of order.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—That is the point of order I am coming to, much more so than your remarks. Then the Postmaster General has to go to the Treasury Board, and have his schedule of proposed rates sanctioned. Then this present Bill says that the Treasury Board cannot sanction that schedule until all parties interested are heard. How long would it take to hear all parties interested? It might take a week, six weeks, six months, and in the meantime the Postmaster General would be without revenue; he would not be able to collect. So the hon. leader of the Government will see the difficulty in the situation. The Postmaster General has put himself in the very same position in which he says the amendment would put him. I agree with the hon. senator from Halifax that this raising of the money bugaboo is getting played out. We have no right to impose new taxes, we have no right to increase taxation on the people; we have no right to increase the burdens of the people; but that does not mean to say that we have not the right to direct the expenditure of it, to prevent the evil expenditure of it. It does not mean to say that we cannot stand here and criticise a Bill and amend it, not along the lines—

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—There is a question of order before the House.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—That is the point of order; you suggest that this is a money Bill. We are not interfering with the revenue of the country in any shape or form, and your point of order is not well taken; it is time for the leader of the Government to give up saying that Bills are money Bills.

The SPEAKER—To give a decision on this point of order necessitates a little exploration into what has taken place before. If I look at the first amendment brought in by the Bill, I find on page 1, line 14, that is the first amendment brought to the Bill, No. (147), that amendment says:

After 'with' insert 'provided always that the maximum rate which the Postmaster General may fix as the postage to be paid on newspapers and periodicals defined by section 53 of this Act shall in no case exceed'—

and there is a blank. Why was there a blank there? Because the Senate was then under the impression that it could not fill up that blank, but that it should be filled up by the Commons; that is the fairest way to interpret that question. Now, that amendment has not been accepted by the Commons; the Commons disagreed, and we are now facing this motion:

That the Senate does not insist upon their first amendment to the said Bill but that the following amendment be substituted therefor:

Page 1, line 8.—Leave out paragraph (e) and substitute the following:

'(e) establish, with the approval of the Treasury Board and after such hearing of any persons interested as the Treasury Board may direct, the rates of postage on all mailable matter, not being letters, and prescribe the terms and conditions on which all mailable matter shall, in each case or class of cases, be permitted to pass by post; and except in the case of letters, authorize the opening thereof for the purpose of ascertaining whether such conditions have been complied with; but the maximum rate which the Postmaster General may so establish as the postage to be paid on newspapers and periodicals defined by section 53 of this Act shall in no case exceed one and one-half cents for each pound weight or fraction of a pound weight; and the rates may be graded according to distances and zones of transportation. The rates so established for such periodicals and newspapers shall be submitted to Parliament at the ensuing session for revision or ratification.'

There is no doubt that if we agree to the amendment to the motion made by the hon. leader of this House we do away altogether with the first amendment, because we adopt the following in lieu thereof:

But the maximum rate which the Postmaster General may so establish as the postage to be paid on newspapers and periodicals defined by section 53 of this Act shall in no case exceed one and one-half cents for each pound weight.