

(4) by deleting sub-clauses 4, 5, 6, and 7.

After further debate, the question being put on the said proposed amendment, it was negatived, on division.

And the question being put on the main motion, pursuant to section 11 of Standing Order 75, a recorded division was deferred.

#### STATEMENT BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: Perhaps I should be allowed to express an afterthought in connection with the motion proposed by the honourable Member for Cardigan (Mr. McQuaid). As honourable Members will note from a reading of pages 4 and 5 of today's Order Paper, that motion proposed to amend clauses 28, 29 and 30 of Bill C-120.

It appears each motion at the Report Stage should actually be directed to a specific clause of a bill rather than a number of clauses. Such motions, I submit, should not relate to two or more clauses as in the case of the motion proposed by the honourable Member for Cardigan. It is my submission that at the report stage of a bill it is intended that every provision of a bill may be isolated and dealt with directly.

The motion proposed by the honourable Member for Cardigan which will be voted upon later, tends to thwart the operation of that principle. A complex motion dealing with several clauses of a bill inevitably leads to complicated amendments which further confuse and becloud the question being considered. I think my point will be apparent to those honourable Members who studied the amendment to the motion which was advanced by the honourable Member for York South (Mr. Lewis). I might say it was actually the amendment moved by the honourable Member for York South which made the Chair realize that perhaps the amendment as it had been proposed should have been split in three. I should say that the motion of the honourable Member for Cardigan should have been split in three motions rather than a single motion, but this perhaps may be a bit too technical.

I say this to protect the position of the Chair if on other occasions motions proposed at the Report Stage of this nature are advanced by honourable Members.

All this having been said, it is in the nature of an afterthought because a motion had been accepted, put to the House and will be voted on in due course.

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Mr. McQuaid, seconded by Mr. Hales, moved,—That Bill C-120, An Act respecting the status of the official languages of Canada, be amended by adding to clause 34 thereof the following subclauses:

“(4) Where a member of the House of Commons, on or before the third sitting day next following the day the Speaker of that House tables any report made by the Commissioner under section 33, asks leave to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing the report as a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, the matter shall be deemed proper to be discussed and shall thereafter be proceeded with in accordance with the provisions of the standing order of the House applicable to the subsequent stages of the proceeding.

(5) The annual statement to Parliament made by the Commissioner under this section, when tabled respectively in the Senate and House of Commons, shall thereupon be referred in each House to a committee designated by the Speaker.”