

Canada Elections Act

Some hon. Members: No.

Motions Nos. 5 and 7 ruled out of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready to proceed to motion No. 6? There is a request from the minister to seek unanimous consent to motions Nos. 6, 13, 15 and 16. Perhaps this is a good time for me to ask whether or not there is consent to these four motions. I know the hon. member has the right to request that the Chair put the question on each motion, but I put the question on all four, for all it is worth.

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, I would ask that you put each motion individually as we approach them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed that we proceed with motion No. 6 in the name of the Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) although the Chair has voiced a reservation on it?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

● (2052)

Hon. Norman A. Cafik (for the Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council) moved:

Motion No. 6.

That Bill C-5, to amend the Canada Elections Act, be amended in Clause 11 by

(a) striking out line 22 at page 15 and substituting the following therefor:

"11. Subsections 13.3(1) and (2) of the said Act are"

(b) striking out lines 25 to 29 at page 15 and substituting the following therefor:

"13.3(1) Every registered party shall, within thirty days after becoming a registered party, appoint an auditor, unless the party has previously appointed an auditor who continues to hold office as such."

(2) Where an auditor of a registered party ceases for any reason to hold office as such, ceases to be qualified as an auditor or becomes ineligible as provided in subsection (3), the party shall, within thirty days, appoint another auditor."

He said: Mr. Speaker, I shall be very brief. This particular amendment was part of a larger amendment introduced at the committee stage, and this element of it was felt to be out of order at that time. I indicated in the committee that I would bring forward an amendment and seek unanimous consent to restore that disposition in the House.

Effectively this amendment would amend clause 11 in order to clarify the requirement of Bill C-5 that registered parties have and keep auditors.

Motion No. 6 (Mr. MacEachen) agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Motion No. 7 has been disposed of as not meeting the requirements of our procedures. The House will now consider motion No. 8, appearing in the name of the hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton (Mr. Dick). The Chair has already indicated that this motion also goes beyond the scope of the bill and seeks to amend the act. However, I am prepared to hear arguments from the hon. member.

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, I thought in dealing with motion No. 5 that I indicated that perhaps I might be able to persuade

hon. members as to the acceptability or otherwise of motions Nos. 5 and 7. I have warned the hon. member that he might have difficulty in convincing the Chair that these two motions do not bring in a completely new proposal. Although I accept the fact that they relate to the point of order he raised on motion No. 2, when one reads these two motions and the clauses which they seek to amend, one has a distinct impression that they bring in a new proposal. If the hon. member has anything to add to what I have said, I welcome his remarks.

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to take a great deal of time on this. I want to point out that if motion No. 6 purports to open up certain subsections, whereas the bill which was reported to the House purported to open up subsection 13.3(1), I felt that although subsection 13.3(1) states that we might be able to delve into that section, we might not have to deal with certain subsections. If I am wrong, the same arguments that you, Mr. Speaker, might be using to rule out my motion No. 5 you will use to rule out motion No. 6 because it purports to open up more than one subsection.

What I intended to do in this motion, which is connected with my motion No. 3, was to put the onus on the auditor appointed by a registered party to set out in his report to the chief agent of the party whether or not all the receipts and expenses of the party for a fiscal period were in connection with the political party in its federal capacity and, if not, what amounts were spent for provincial, municipal, or out of Canada political activities.

The party to my left has been saying that they have been disclosing this information since 1933. I thought that everybody would welcome this open disclosure which they all seem to want. Without such an amendment, this information will be buried under the carpet where the public cannot see it. I will say no more. If you allow this motion, Mr. Speaker, and we go on to the next one, I will say that what I said on the last motion will apply to the next one. If you see fit to do so, Mr. Speaker, perhaps it can be disposed of on division. Otherwise, you might have the same difficulty perhaps with motion No. 6.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I do not want to prejudge the decision, but the hon. member would have to convince the House to give consent to the motion. I take it from the minister that there might be consent to motion No. 6. But so far as motions Nos. 5 and 7 are concerned, which would open up a subsection on the appointment of an auditor and give direction to him, I believe that this would bring in a new perspective which was not foreseen in the bill and for that reason I cannot accept it, unless there is unanimous consent to motions Nos. 5 and 7.

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, I have not yet spoken on motion No. 7. All I can say is that if there is a willingness to give unanimous consent to it, I will undertake not to make a speech but to let the matter go on division. Perhaps that might encourage the minister and we will have the interparty compatibility that this committee has usually had.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there consent to motions Nos. 5 and 7?