

been discussed and disposed of by the Deputy Speaker, who allowed the hon. member for Bellechasse to proceed. I think the hon. member is in order.

Mr. SPEAKER (Having resumed the chair): Do any other hon. members desire to speak to the point of order? I understand that two hon. members of the House in the course of a debate rose simultaneously. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre first claimed the right to speak, but the Deputy Speaker decided that he had seen the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Boulanger) first. If the point of order was raised then it has been settled, or an appeal should have been taken from the ruling of the Chair or a motion made that the member for Winnipeg North Centre be now heard. No appeal was taken and I do not see how the point of order can now be revived as it has already been decided. Might I recall to hon. members of the House rule 17, which reads as follows:

When two or more members rise to speak, Mr. Speaker calls upon the member who first rose in his place: but a motion may be made that any member who has risen "be now heard," or "do now speak," which motion shall be forthwith put without debate.

Under paragraph 208 of that rule will be found the following:

As a matter of courtesy a new member—

That is the case of the hon. member for Bellechasse:

—who has not yet spoken in the House is usually called in preference to other members rising at the same time; but this privilege will not be conceded unless claimed within the parliament to which the member was first returned.

That is exactly the case of the hon. member for Bellechasse. Everyone knows that the Chair is fair to all sides, and it has happened quite frequently that I have intervened with the whips of the ministerial party and of His Majesty's opposition in order to give the third party, comprising various groups, fair play in the debate. But as the ministerial party and the opposition are more numerous than the third party, naturally it is to be expected that during a debate more speakers from those two parties will be heard, but generally speaking I alternate between the three parties, and that is what I intend to do in the future. The principle of fairness must be applied to all parties in the House. In the meantime I will ask the hon. member for Bellechasse, who is a new member and a decided acquisition to the House, to proceed.

Mr. HEAPS: Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

[Mr. Casgrain.]

Mr. HEAPS: The point I raised was in connection with the ruling of the Deputy Speaker. Immediately after the Deputy Speaker had refused the floor to my colleague from Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Woodsworth) I did challenge his ruling by moving a motion, and I do not know how else a ruling could be challenged. Without expressing any reason, the Deputy Speaker merely called upon the hon. gentleman whom you now ask to proceed, and I desire to know upon what ruling he refused my motion.

Mr. LAVIGUEUR: There was no motion made; a point of order was raised and settled, and the hon. member for Bellechasse proceeded.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am informed by the Clerk of the House that the motion was made when the member for Bellechasse had already commenced to speak. The point can be best ascertained by consulting the scroll of the House.

Mr. HEAPS: Not only was a motion made, but I think the hon. member for West Calgary (Mr. Bennett) supported it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have explained the ruling, and I hope hon. members will accept it in good faith.

Mr. HEAPS: Am I allowed—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The point is settled. No member can be interrupted unless by his leave, and at present the hon. member for Bellechasse has the floor.

Mr. HEAPS: But, Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. HEAPS: I would respectfully appeal from the ruling of the chair.

Mr. SPEAKER: There can be no appeal because there is no ruling.

Mr. BOULANGER (Translation): I do not know, Sir, whether I am in order in alluding to your ruling, however, I wish to thank you for the kind and too flattering words expressed in my behalf.

Mr. HEAPS: Have I the right to appeal the ruling of the chair?

Mr. SPEAKER: I simply stated what the Deputy Speaker, who preceded me in the chair, had done. I understand there was a point of order raised and that it was ruled upon, so there is nothing more to say; there is no appeal from the decision. I hope my hon. friend will understand that.

Mr. HEAPS: Does Your Honour say that I cannot appeal now?