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JOURNALS

OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

OF CANADA

---

OTTAWA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1967.

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2.30 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS.

RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

"Introduction of Bills" having been called and a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the British North America Act, 1867 and Publication of Statutes Act (Proceedings to be printed in French and English on the same page)" having been reached;

Mr. SPEAKER: Before standing the bill perhaps I might take the opportunity to comment on the point of order raised by the honourable Member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. Churchill) when the honourable Member for Jacques-Cartier-Lasalle (Mr. Rock) on Friday last sought leave to introduce this bill. The point of order was raised with the suggestion that this bill might perhaps be a money bill.

I have since then reviewed the terms of the proposed legislation in the light of the definition of a money bill set out at pages 841 and 842 of May's Parliamentary Practice, seventeenth edition. My conclusion is that the present bill does not fall within that definition. May states that a charge must be new and distinct and that it must be effectively imposed. He adds: "These tests have the effect of excluding from the category of "charges" a considerable number of matters which *prima facie* involve expenditure."

If this were not so, no public bill could be introduced by a private Member, for every bill involves an expenditure of money even if it be only for the printing thereof. If any expenditure is required following the adoption of this bill, it is already covered by section 16 of the Publication of Statutes Act, chapter 230 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1952, which reads as follows: "All expenditures incurred in printing, binding and distributing the statutes shall be defrayed from an appropriation voted by Parliament for that purpose."

I must also add that this statute, an Act respecting the Publication of the Statutes, was introduced in the House on March 31, 1925, with the same wording as that contained in section 16 and without a resolution. In other words, if there is any expenditure in the bill proposed by the honourable Member for Jacques-Cartier-Lasalle it is already covered by existing statutory author-