Motion under S.O. 26

It also appears to the Chair that the hon. gentleman, in the main, is asking for a review or reconsideration of the statutory powers of the Transport Commission ... It may well be that such a review or reconsideration of the powers of the commission might be desirable, but it does not seem to me that a debate under Standing Order 26 is the appropriate or the effective method for such a review.

It seems to me that Mr. Speaker Lamoureux's ruling applies precisely to the case that we have before the House today.

Finally, Standing Order 26, section (16), states that the right to move the adjournment of the House is subject to the condition that:

The matter proposed for discussion must relate to a genuine emergency, calling for immediate and urgent consideration.

The member himself has stated that he raised the matter as early as April 17 of this year. Since then there have been two opposition days dealing with energy policy, one on May 8 and one yesterday, July 8. As well, the Standing Committee on Northern Pipelines, to which all reports and agreements mentioned in the Northern Pipeline Act are permanently referred, has also been meeting. It must also be noted that Standing Order 65(1)(t) states that this committee shall report at least three times in every session.

It would seem to the Chair, therefore, that this subject does not qualify as a genuine emergency and that the House has had and will have other opportunities to discuss the matter.

The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway has obviously availed himself of the opportunity to raise the matter in the House on a number of occasions. The fact that he seems to feel he needs yet another opportunity does not in itself constitute an emergency.

For these reasons I must regretfully decline to accept the hon. member's motion at this time.

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, with respect to the ruling which you just gave on the Standing Order 26 motion, I rise again to inform hon. members that Standing Order 26(3) provides:

When requesting leave to propose such a motion, the member shall rise in his place and present without argument the statement referred to in section (2) of this order.

Section (2) simply says that this House will now adjourn. I would like the House to realize that the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) was perhaps given some latitude which is not permitted by the rules.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Don't be so mealy-mouthed.

Hon. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Madam Speaker, I suggest that the parliamentary secretary has made a gratuitous intervention. I happen to know that the original draft prepared by the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) was a lengthy one, and I counselled him to shorten it. When he stood he read a briefly stated motion. His comments were so brief that I am sure Your Honour does not feel that he transgressed the rule in any way. The parliamentary secretary should save that comment for some other occasion. Madam Speaker: It seemed to me that the very, very short statement which was made by the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) was quite acceptable. The draft which I received, of course, gave in length many arguments for which the hon. member thought that this motion should be considered, and that is fine. The draft can be very lengthy, but it is helpful for the Chair if it provides all the bases upon which the motion is requested.

However, the statement made today by the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway, it seems to me, was reasonably brief, I am sure that it was formulated to inform the House briefly of the reasons for which the hon. member was putting his motion.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, notice of motion for the production of papers No. 15 is acceptable to the government, subject to the usual reservations pertaining to the confidentiality of certain parts of the information requested.

Perhaps you would be so kind, Madam Speaker, as to call notice of motion for the production of papers Nos. 4, 7 and 22.

Madam Speaker: Subject to the reservations or contingencies expressed by the parliamentary secretary, is it the pleasure of the House that notice of motion No. 15 be deemed to have been adopted?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

TREASURY BOARD—POSSIBILITY OF TRANSFERRING THE GOVERNMENT'S COMPUTER OPERATIONS TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Motion No. 15-Mr. Nystrom:

That an order of the House do issue for copies of all correspondence, memoranda, notes, minutes of meetings and other communications, between June 1, 1979, and February 25, 1980, involving the Treasury Board and relating to the possibility of transferring any or all of the government's computer operations to the private sector.

Motion agreed to.

STUDY-GRAIN TRANSPORT-WESTERN CANADA.

Motion No. 4-Mr. Herbert:

That an order of the House do issue for a copy of the latest completed study on grain transport in western Canada.

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the document requested is of a voluminous character and would require an inordinate cost and length of time to prepare. However, I sent today a copy of the requested document to the hon. member. Therefore, the hon. member is asked to withdraw his motion.