

Mr. BENNETT: On that occasion the debate closed on the subject when the Speaker left the chair and the chairman took his place. Secondly, the hon. member is transgressing the rules by twice discussing the same subject in the same session.

Mr. NEILL: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. BENNETT: And, the opportunity afforded in supply will be the third. I have mentioned at least two rules of the house, at any rate, which at this time are being transgressed.

Mr. NEILL: On the point of order, it seems to me the Prime Minister has raised only one point of order, because he states I am repeating an argument I used previously. I have not repeated anything I have used before. This is all entirely new. I am referring to a matter of a deletion from the record of the house, and on the last occasion I did not speak in that connection. I could not have, because the incident to which I now refer occurred since that time.

Mr. BENNETT: It is a question of privilege.

Mr. NEILL: And, speaking apart from the point of order, I might as well get what I have to say off my chest now as in committee, but in that connection, I am in the hands of the house. I state, however, the matter to which I now refer has not been decided. The question on the former occasion was: Shall we go into committee? The minister being allowed to make a definite statement, in all fairness I ought to be allowed to reply.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Go on.

Mr. BENNETT: The only reason I raised the question was that I happened to observe the hon. member's statement that the minister should offer an apology for a breach of the rules of the house.

Mr. NEILL: That is certainly something new.

Mr. BENNETT: I agree that is new.

Mr. NEILL: I hope it will never occur again. I should like to ask, however, what rule the Prime Minister is quoting.

Mr. BENNETT: The rule which says—

Mr. NEILL: Which one?

Mr. BENNETT: I do not carry the numbers in my head; I am not accustomed to doing that. But the rule to which I referred states that a member cannot discuss the same matter twice in the same session. When, on the motion to go into supply, the matter

was discussed, the discussion ended when the Speaker left the chair and the chairman took the chair. That is the rule to which I referred. I state, further, that the long explanation to which we have listened is only a repetition in other terms of that which has already taken place.

Mr. NEILL: Am I not discussing something new?

Mr. BENNETT: No—not upon that phase of the matter.

Mr. NEILL: I am discussing the rules of the house at the present time, because I claim they have been broken by a deletion of something from Hansard.

Mr. BENNETT: That is a question of privilege of the house.

Mr. NEILL: I shall call it a matter of privilege, then; I shall raise a question of privilege.

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Neill) on the former motion that the Speaker do leave the chair for the house to go into committee of supply brought up and discussed the matter of certain public works in his constituency. It was discussed then by him and by the Minister of Marine (Mr. Duranleau), I think, and disposed of when the Speaker left the chair, and it would be a violation of the rules and customs of this house to discuss the matter again, which I understand the hon. member is now attempting to do.

Mr. NEILL: Which rule, sir?

Mr. BENNETT: The rules and practices of debate in this parliament.

Mr. SPEAKER: The rules and standing orders. It is the practice and custom of this house and of the British house not to discuss again the same question during the same session. The hon. member, I understand, has undertaken specifically to discuss certain bridges in his constituency.

Mr. NEILL: Not a bridge, sir, a breach.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the hon. member will contain himself for a moment. When he is attempting to discuss these public works he is out of order, and I ask him to desist.

Mr. NEILL: Will I be allowed to rise to a question of privilege to discuss this question?

Mr. BENNETT: What is the question of privilege?

Mr. NEILL: I will have to explain it of course.