

lay upon the Table of the House, any report or other paper, dealing with a matter coming within the administrative responsibilities of the government and, thereupon, the same shall be deemed for all purposes to have been laid before the House."

The new Standing Order can be interpreted in only one of two ways; either it is intended to provide an additional method of tabling the papers described in Standing Order 41(1) or it is intended to provide a method to table documents other than those provided in 41(1). In my view, the second interpretation only is logical. Indeed, if Standing Order 41(2) means anything, it must be that it enlarges the class of papers which can be tabled by the government without notice and without leave.

The Chair is bound by the clear words of the rule to the effect that a Minister may table any report or other paper dealing with a matter coming within the administrative responsibilities of the government. So long as the report or paper deals with a matter which comes within the administrative responsibility of the government, and that the paper is an official document for which the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary accepts responsibility, it can be tabled pursuant to Standing Order 41(2).

If this interpretation of the rule results in the tabling of a type of papers or document which had not been contemplated by the procedure committee, it is of course open to the members of that committee to review the Standing Order and redraft it in a way which would justify a more restrictive interpretation. For the time being, the Chair would be inclined to accept for tabling papers or reports which deal with matters coming within administrative responsibility of the government and which are official papers in the sense that they are proposed to the House by a minister either directly or through his Parliamentary Secretary in the exercise of his ministerial responsibility.

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Mr. Trudeau, a Member of the Queen's Privy Council, laid before the House,—Copies of (1) Report of the Continuing Committee of Officials to the Constitutional Conference, February 1969, together with a Briefing Paper on Discussions within the Continuing Committee of Officials.

(2) Agenda for the Second Meeting of the Constitutional Conference, February 10, 11 and 12, 1969. (English and French).

Pursuant to Standing Order 39(4), the following Question was made an Order of the House for a Return:

No. 1,062—*Mr. Beaudoin*

During the fiscal years ending March 31, 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968, what amounts were paid by the government in travelling expenses for each federal Cabinet Minister?

Mr. Forest, Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Queen's Privy Council, presented,—Return to the foregoing Order.

The Order being read for the consideration of Bill S-14, An Act to amend the Aeronautics Act, as reported, without amendment, from the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications;