

Income Tax Act

not proceed until the Government or the administration of the House gets its act together and cuts out the restraint from which we are obviously suffering and gives us the proper recordings of the debate due to us all.

Very few people in my own constituency, unless they happen to have dish receivers, will ever see what is happening in this House. So it is not a matter of personal desire or intent but simply a wish that the Government and the House operate as they are supposed to do before we proceed with further business.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): To the best of my understanding there are two Hon. Members who may wish to speak. In the circumstances, one of those Hon. Members has indicated he would prefer not to speak. I want to be careful. Hon. Members will understand that if I were to rule that the House shall not sit any time that the television monitors break down, we would run into some pretty serious precedents. For that reason I am attempting to seek the mood and consent of the House rather than operate on the Chair's ruling.

Mr. Bosley: Mr. Speaker, I am glad you did not make a ruling because I wanted to suggest that it is certainly my understanding that television is important in the House, but *Hansard* is the official record of the House of Commons and so is the record kept by the Table officers and television is additional thereto. I would argue that a decline in the television services, while grossly inconveniencing Canadians, does not represent a breach of the rights of Canadians.

With regard to the point you are making, we should be grateful that the Hon. Member for Northumberland-Miramichi (Mr. Dionne) does not speak more often because look what it did to the cameras. As to the question of whether there are further speeches to be made today, I accept the point the Hon. Member from the NDP is making and I would be prepared to sit down and call it five o'clock.

Mr. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi): Mr. Speaker, since I was brought into this by the Hon. Member for Don Valley West (Mr. Bosley), I just want to point out two things.

He is quite correct when he says that *Hansard* is the official version of the debates in this House and it is still functioning. You are quite right when you say we are setting a dangerous precedent if we close down the House because of the inability of the cameras to transmit the images of the speakers in this House.

While I would not apologize if I disrupted the system, I am afraid that I cannot take the credit. It was the Hon. Member for Humboldt-Lake Centre (Mr. Althouse) who has that distinction, and I congratulate him.

Mr. Fisher: Mr. Speaker, further to the point of order and to the comments I made a few minutes ago, I have checked around and I find that regardless of whether the television cameras are on, off or in between, you would find agreement if you called it five o'clock.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I want to check of course with the Hon. Member for Northumberland-Miramichi. Considering the terms of the House order made yesterday, the question is really not to be put, but debate will continue on Monday. I gather the mood of the House is that we should call it five o'clock. I seek the consent of the House, and that includes the Hon. Member for Northumberland-Miramichi. Do I have that consent?

Mr. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi): Mr. Speaker, we are setting a dangerous precedent here right now. However, I do not pretend to have a monopoly on knowledge or common sense in this House and I defer to the judgment of my colleagues, as long as it is understood that we are not establishing a precedent.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): There is no precedent. The House can proceed by unanimous consent in any direction it wishes.

It being five o'clock, this House stands adjourned until Monday next at eleven o'clock in the morning pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).

At 4.30 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.