

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. Pierre H. Vincent (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all notices of motions for production of papers be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Shall all notices of motions stand?

[English]

Mr. Milliken: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I do not know how the government operates on Notices of Motions for the Production of Papers, but they are dealt with only once a week. The government gets lots of notice that these things are going on the *Notice Paper* and then they appear.

• (1540)

I have two on that are quite straightforward. The material that is asked for should be readily available. It must be prepared and submitted by this time, and I have just asked for it. I do not know why the delay.

I wonder if the parliamentary secretary, who I know wants to co-operate with the House, would not perhaps be more forthcoming and say: "Yes, we would agree to that," and table the return. Even if he promised to table it in two weeks, we could adopt the motion. Yet, we are constantly delayed on these things.

I think it is not a reasonable way to proceed. It is certainly not the spirit and the intention of the rule that we proceed in this way. The intention is that we deal with the motions expeditiously. Perhaps the parliamentary secretary does not know that word, but it does mean quickly.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I do not know why the hon. member's motions are not answered at this point. The only assumption I can make is that with each of his requests, we take them seriously, we do a great deal of research, and we want to make sure that the answer he receives is nothing but of the highest quality.

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I also have a motion for production of papers, Motion P-29, which humbly calls upon the government "to cause to be laid before this House copies of all letters exchanged by His Excellency and Her Majesty the Queen concerning the application of Section 26 of the Constitution Act".

Government Orders

Mr. Speaker, this is not terribly complicated. If there is no correspondence, they can say so! But if there is for Heaven's sake please release the letters, because we have a crisis on our hands in this country. There is a crisis in the Senate. It might help us understand what is going on.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

IRAQ

INVASION OF KUWAIT

The House resumed from Thursday, September 27, consideration of the motion of Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):

That this House condemn the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and, encouraged by the unprecedented international consensus demanding the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the full restoration of the legitimate government of Kuwait, affirm unequivocally its support for Canada's actions in the United Nations Security Council and its support for all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions adopted since August 2 and for the despatch of members of the Canadian Forces to take part in the multinational military effort in and around the Arabian Peninsula; and

That, upon adoption of this motion, the said motion shall be deemed referred to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and International Trade.

and the amendment of Mr. Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre):

That the motion be amended after the words "Canadian Forces" and read:

enforce these United Nations resolutions;

That this House censure the government for not recalling Parliament at the earliest opportunity to fulfil its legitimate function of consultation and debate as to what role Canada should play in the resolution of the present crisis; and

That upon adoption of this motion, the said motion shall be deemed referred to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and International Trade.

and the subamendment of Ms. McLaughlin:

That the motion be amended by adding the following after the word "resolutions"