

Supply—Veterans Affairs

Mr. Howe: If my hon. friend is relying on unanimous consent, Mr. Chairman, I assure you that he has not unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Fulton: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman—

The Chairman: I have asked the hon. member to make his statement short and to the point. I understand that he now wants to discuss item 563 with respect to the foot-and-mouth disease. I would point out to him that I have called item 649. May I suggest to him that when I call item 563 with respect to the foot-and-mouth disease, it will then be the proper time to discuss it. But at this time I have called item 649, which is an item under veterans affairs, "pensions and other benefits". The hon. member may not discuss the foot-and-mouth disease under this item.

Mr. Fulton: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, may I direct Your Honour's attention to the fact that on Friday night, on this same item, there are four columns of *Hansard* reporting the discussion, and three of those columns practically all relate to the matter which the hon. member for Greenwood is now discussing. The Minister of Agriculture intervened in the debate on Friday night and discussed the very point of foot-and-mouth disease, and his presence in the house, or otherwise, to which the hon. member for Greenwood has just made reference. As the ministers introduced the subject and raised a whole general debate on it, to which the hon. member is now referring, I submit that he is in order in continuing the discussion.

Mr. Abbott: Oh, that was entirely on my request that we sit after eleven o'clock in order to consider the estimates further.

Mr. Ross (Souris): Not on this item.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): Mr. Chairman—

The Chairman: The hon. member for Kamloops has raised a point of order. Is the hon. member speaking to that point of order?

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): Yes, I am. Inasmuch as we are all equal in this house, and in view of the suggestion that has been made that this discussion arose on the minister's suggestion, as he now puts it, on Friday night, I am now asking, on my suggestion, to have a little bit of discussion which continues the discussion that was taking place on Friday night. I would remind you again, Mr. Chairman, that this whole debate is possible only because we agreed. As the hon. member for Kamloops has so well pointed out, this point was raised and

[Mr. Abbott.]

was being discussed when we adjourned on Friday night. If the minister prefers to have it stated that we are continuing the discussion which he began on Friday night, that is all right with me.

Mr. Abbott: That discussion was disposed of. The leader of the opposition refused to sit after eleven o'clock.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): Oh, no. It was disposed of by the leader of the opposition agreeing to meet here today. Mr. Chairman, I am nearly through, and I hope you will allow me to finish.

The Chairman: Order. I have before me *Hansard* of Friday, reporting the discussion which was started by the leader of the opposition when we were on this item 649.

Mr. Abbott: The leader of the opposition was not in the house for more than a few minutes.

The Chairman: I notice that item 649 was the item under discussion at eleven o'clock on Friday night. Today I called item 649, and the hon. gentleman said he had a statement to make. I allowed him to make his statement. I cannot at this time, however, allow him to discuss an item other than item 649.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): I am not discussing another item. I am discussing the situation which arose on Friday night, which was then debated but the debate was not concluded. I am trying to continue that discussion. If the leader of the house is willing to allow me to finish—

Mr. Fournier (Hull): Mr. Chairman, I have great doubts whether the hon. gentleman is in order. Debate on the subject under discussion on Friday night was concluded. We tried to sit after eleven o'clock, a little over six hours, but were not successful. Today the chairman has called item 649, and I think we should abide by the rules.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): The leader of the house just says that he has grave doubts. If I know his inclination, judging from his past record, he gives us the benefit of the doubt if he has a doubt. Mr. Chairman, I am ready to defer to your ruling. I am fairly well through with what I wanted to say. May I be allowed to finish?

The Chairman: I will allow the hon. gentleman to continue, but not to speak about the foot-and-mouth disease, because that subject is not relevant to item 649 which is the one now before the committee.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): It is only the movements of the Minister of Agriculture with regard to this item that I wish to discuss.