Mr. McCleave proposed to move in amendment thereto, —That Bill C-8 be not now read a third time but that it be resolved that in the opinion of this House the action of the government in arranging by departmental directive for machinery to collect taxes for several provinces of which Parliament had not yet approved is contrary to established practice and without constitutional authority.

RULING BY MR. ACTING SPEAKER

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Maybe I should tell the honourable Member at this point, before I put his amendment, that I have reservations with regard to it mainly because it appears to go beyond the purview of the bill which is before us. I might refer the honourable Member to citation 418 of Beauchesne which states: "The question for the third reading is put immediately after the report from the Committee of the Whole. All amendments which may be moved on a second reading of a bill may be moved on the third reading with the restriction that they cannot deal with any matter which is not contained in the bill."

Maybe it is an appropriate moment at which to invite the honourable Member's comments. The main point I wish to raise is that the amendment does not seem to meet all the requirements, particularly the one which says that an amendment should be relevant to the bill.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I am sure the honourable Member understands that he cannot ask the Chair to rule on the intention of an amendment. The Chair can rule only on the procedural acceptability of an amendment as such. To my mind, the terms of the present amendment appear to criticize the actions of the government. Honourable Members know that according to the rules of the House an amendment must relate to the contents of the bill. It can either refute the bill or must relate to something that is found in the provisions of the bill. I have already referred to the citation in Beauchesne that clearly provides that all amendments that may be moved on second reading of a bill may be moved on the third reading, with the restriction that they cannot deal with any matter which is not contained in the bill. If the honourable Member would also refer to the top of page 572 of Erskine May's Parliamentary Practice, 17th Edition, he will see quite plainly provided: "As the debate on the third reading should be confined to the contents of the bill, reasoned amendments which raise matters not included in the provisions of the bill are not permissible."

In view of these two citations, it is clear that the honourable Member cannot ask the Chair to postpone its decision as to the acceptability of this amendment on the sole ground that it might be, in the mind of the honourable Member, a very important question. For these reasons I cannot accept the amendment.

Debate was resumed on the motion of Mr. Drury for Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton), seconded by Mr.

Mahoney,—That Bill C-8, An Act to authorize the making of certain fiscal payments to provinces, to authorize the entry into tax collection agreements with provinces, and to amend the Established Programs (Interim Arrangements) Act, be now read a third time and do pass.

And debate continuing:

(Proceedings on Adjournment Motion)

At 10.00 o'clock p.m., the question "That this House do now adjourn" was deemed to have been proposed pursuant to Standing Order 40(1);

After debate the said question was deemed to have been adopted.

Changes in Committee Membership

Notice having been filed with the Clerk of the House pursuant to Standing Order 65(4)(b), membership of Committees was amended as follows:

Mr. Rose for Mr. Gleave on the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Messrs. Gilbert, Thomas (Maisonneuve-Rosemont), Hopkins, Lessard (Lac-Saint-Jean) and Lessard (La-Salle) for Messrs. Burton, Leblanc (Laurier), Buchanan, Forget and Otto on the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

Mr. Harding for Mr. Gleave on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

Mr. Deakon for Mr. Forget on the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Messrs. Allmand, Smith (Saint-Jean), Benjamin and Forrestall for Messrs. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay), Pringle, Mather and Danforth on the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

Messrs. Stewart (Cochrane), Caccia, Gendron, McBride and Smith (Northumberland-Miramichi) for Messrs. St. Pierre, Buchanan, Deakon, Murphy and Sulatycky on the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Mr. Nielsen for Mr. Horner on the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Mr. Forget for Mr. Duquet on the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

Mr. Howe for Mr. Moore on the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. MacInnis for Mr. McKinley on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont) for Mr. Howe on the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

At 10.31 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned until tomorrow at 11.00 o'clock a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).