

my understanding is that no final ruling has been made and I will proceed on that basis.

In the tradition of the House, where the debate or speech of an Hon. Member has been interrupted by points of order, the Chair at its own discretion has allowed the Hon. Member additional time; sometimes the exact amount that was accorded the point of order, or at other times the Chair makes a judgment as to what seems to be fair in the circumstances. However, it is completely the tradition of the House that points of order, while they may not be taken from the debate time of an individual Member, are very definitely taken from the total allotted debate time on a motion. There is no question about that.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Oh, come on!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I hear an Hon. Member saying "come on!"

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I say "come on!" with justification.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): My ruling is always open to question. I encourage Hon. Members who may wish to do their homework in that regard to re-open the question if they see fit.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: What is this place for?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I indicate again to Hon. Members that a check of today's "blues" or *Hansard* will give them some of the answers for which they may be looking and a further check of the procedures of the House will, I am quite certain, assure Hon. Members of the accuracy of the ruling I have just given.

According to those rulings taken together, the eight-hour debate period will end at 12.24 p.m. However, I want to point out that first there is a ten-minute question and answer period relevant to the speech of the Hon. Member for Esquimalt-Saanich.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I suppose your time is not taken off.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Second, if the next Hon. Member seen by the Chair begins his debate before 12.24 p.m., I will then recognize that Hon. Member to continue his debate to a maximum time of 20 minutes and to enjoy the benefit of a ten-minute question and answer period as well.

Questions, answers, comments? Does the Hon. Member for Dauphin-Swan River (Mr. Lewycky) rise on questions and answers?

Mr. Lewycky: On debate, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Questions and answers?

Mr. Hargrave: On debate, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Questions, comments, answers? Debate, the Hon. Member for Dauphin-Swan River.

Mr. Lewycky: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Western Grain Transportation Act

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. We have only had two speakers since the last NDP speaker, and we are entitled to three, with all respect to the Hon. Member.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I am relying on my predecessor in the chair whose advice was that, having worked out a reasonable order of speakers in his view, the next Hon. Member who ought to be recognized is the Hon. Member for Dauphin-Swan River. However, if the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor) insists that I check that to my own satisfaction, I will do so, but I will need a couple of minutes to do so.

● (1220)

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, I can give you the exact figures.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I appreciate the Hon. Member's offer. If the House will allow me a moment, I will do the homework necessary. I say again that this may raise problems related to the 20-minute period and 12.24 and so forth.

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, it is possible the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor) is not aware that on the last day of debate there was an agreement reached between the Hon. Member for Vegreville (Mr. Mazankowski) and a couple of us to allow one of the Conservative Members to speak sooner in the debate than he would otherwise have been entitled to in order that he could catch an airplane. We agreed to that. That is why it appears as though the Hon. Member for Dauphin-Swan River (Mr. Lewycky) is getting up after only two Conservative speakers. That was a little arrangement we arrived at in order to convenience one another the other day.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, I knew nothing about that arrangement. If that is the arrangement made with the Hon. Member for Vegreville, that is fine with me.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, before I start on my point of order, in view of what I consider to be a very, very important statement made by yourself, I want to make sure I am not interfering. If you have recognized the Hon. Member for Dauphin-Swan River, he is entitled to 20 minutes. I do not want the point of order I am now about to raise to be in any way an abrogation of the opportunity of any Member of this House to be able to speak for the fullest possible length of time.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Order, please. The point being raised by the Hon. Member for Saskatoon West (Mr. Hnatyshyn) is a great courtesy. Unless I have some serious point of order objecting to that, I will be prepared to see the time of 12.24 go past and yet continue to recognize the Hon. Member for Dauphin-Swan River, and to continue in his case and his alone the 20-minute debate and 10-minute period for questions and answers. I hope that will be agreeable to the House.