

## NORAD—Canada-U.S. Agreement

of the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and the coming remarks of the Minister of National Defence. Later in the debate, as I said before, one of the members of this group will summarize our opinions and our views.

**Mr. Speaker:** If any hon. member wishes to address himself to the question of the regularity of the proposed amendment, I would be glad to hear him before I give my own views.

**Mr. Walker:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Kootenay West, with his great wealth of experience in parliament, must be aware that it is quite out of order, that it is impossible, when a motion is before the house, to move another motion. He must know there is no possible way of doing that, and to ask that the house should give unanimous consent to its being done is almost a travesty.

**Mr. Herridge:** From your point of view.

**Mr. Walker:** In reply to the hon. member, I do not mind his reading his speech, but when he reads a speech by the C.C.F. ghost writer, David Lewis, that is another question. And I see it is going to come in instalments. The other speakers are going to give David Lewis part two—

**Mr. Herridge:** I take strong exception to that remark. I am not in the habit of reading speeches, but I explained I was going to follow notes very closely because of the importance of this question—

**Mr. Speaker:** We are getting into a side issue, here.

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Herridge:** Mr. Lewis had nothing to do with my speech. I wrote my notes myself, and the other members of this group have done the same. I suggest that the hon. member for Rosedale should withdraw his unsporting implication.

**Some hon. Members:** Withdraw.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member has contradicted the allegation that he did not write his own speech. The suggestion that a speech was written by someone else is not a reflection on character, or there would be a good many points of privilege taken in this house. So I cannot require the hon. member for Rosedale to withdraw that statement.

As to the correctness of the proposed amendment, standing order 44 says:

When a question is under debate no motion is received unless to amend it; to postpone it to a day certain; for the previous question; for reading orders of the day; for proceeding to another order; to adjourn the debate; or for the adjournment of the house.

[Mr. Herridge.]

The only category under which this motion could come is that of an amendment, and it has been held in the past that a motion to refer a question to a committee is not a proper amendment. One reference is the fourth edition of Beauchesne, citation 202, at page 169:

It is not an amendment to a motion to move that the question go to a committee.

The matter is also dealt with quite thoroughly by the Speaker in the *Journals* of May 21, 1951, page 400, so I am afraid I must rule the hon. members motion out of order.

Is the house ready for the question?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Speaker, I was about to inquire of the Prime Minister (Mr. Diefenbaker) whether it is the intention of the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Pearkes) to follow his suggestion that he take part in this debate. It would seem that if the Minister of National Defence and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Smith) are to take part it would be normal for members of the ministry presenting the case to speak first. Perhaps we might inquire whether the Minister of National Defence proposes to take advantage of this opportunity of participating in what obviously is, for him, a very important discussion.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, a decision as to the order depends after all on the hon. gentleman. If he is ready we want to hear the viewpoint of the opposition, and there is no reason at all why the Minister of National Defence should choose this moment to make his contribution.

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Pearson:** On a point of order, I would point out that a great many questions have already been addressed to members of the government, and perhaps they will be good enough to reply to them at this time.

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the Prime Minister, who has been a member of this house for a good number of years, will agree with me that we have just witnessed one of the most extraordinary spectacles in parliament when a minister charged with a department in respect of which a most important matter has been debated has not taken advantage of the opportunity of participating in a discussion concerning his department, particularly after the remarks made by his leader, the Queen's first minister in this house. We can only conclude that the reluctance of the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Pearkes) to take part in this debate following the normal arrangement of alternate speakers between government and