

Public Service Employment Act

Mr. Young: Yes, Mr. Speaker, just very briefly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: That could only be done with unanimous consent of the House, because the Hon. Member has already spoken. Is it agreed?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Young: Mr. Speaker, I was involved in discussions with other members of a subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Management and Members' Services, and I can tell the House that this subject has been thoroughly aired within that group. It consists of Members from all sides. Also, there was unanimous agreement that this measure should be adopted by the House, because of the many arguments which have been used in support of the Bill.

In the spirit of co-operation, and since we have been told that the committee is tied up for 10 days, I would be more than delighted to accept a friendly amendment to extend my amendment to 12 days rather than 10.

Mr. Evans: Oh, come on!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Of course the Hon. Member is not making a formal proposal because there cannot be two subamendments before the House at the same time. Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Orlikow, moved an amendment to the amendment that the said committee submit a report to the House of Commons within a period of 10 days. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the subamendment?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the amendment to the amendment will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion, the yeas have it.

Mr. Ellis: There are only two Members rising.

An Hon. Member: Get up.

Mr. Ellis: Now there are only four. They cannot struggle up like that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Call in the Members.

Mr. Evans: No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Young: The amendment was carried.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. Perhaps the House will allow the Chair to clarify the proceedings. The Chair proceeded with putting the amendment to the amendment to the House. The Chair then invited Hon. Members who support the motion to say yea and proceeded to invite Hon. Members who opposed the motion to say nay, and, in the Chair's opinion, the yeas had it.

Mr. Ellis: Very definitely.

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. It is my impression that we have now passed an amendment to the amendment, a subamendment. Now we have an amended motion before the House, and that is debatable, is it not? I was rising to debate the main motion as amended.

Mr. Blaker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I had a different understanding. If you are agreeable, may I just indicate my understanding of what happened, because I was involved with the Bill. First, a subamendment—

Mr. Young: Rod, you are trying to talk it out.

Mr. Blaker: First, as I understand it, a motion has been made to refer the subject matter to the committee. I have not heard that motion being put to the House. A further subamendment suggested that the report be made within 10 days. I understood, on a voice vote, that the ten-day subamendment was rejected. I then understood—

Mr. Ellis: No, no.

Mr. Young: It was carried.

Mr. Orlikow: It was carried very clearly.

Mr. Blaker: Then I have a misunderstanding, my apologies.

● (1800)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, I would recognize the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Evans), however, the Chair should indicate to the House that at this time, the hour provided for Private Members' Business has elapsed.

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that a motion was put by the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Foster) which moved that the order be withdrawn and the subject matter referred to the Miscellaneous Estimates Committee. No debate was held on that motion, and an amendment was subsequently put to that motion by the Hon. Member for Beaches (Mr. Young) adding: "and a report should be made in ten days". We voted on the subamendment to have the report made in ten days which changed the motion, and now that motion as amended is before the House for debate. I was rising to debate that motion as amended which was put by the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Treasury Board.

Mr. Ellis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am not the world's best expert on procedure and there are two very