

Routine Proceedings

NAYS

Members

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Anawak | Arseneault |
| Axworthy (Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing) | Bélair |
| Benjamin | Black |
| Blackburn (Brant) | Blaikie |
| Blondin | Boudria |
| Campbell (South West Nova) | Catterall |
| Comuzzi | de Jong |
| Dionne | Ferguson |
| Fontana | Foster |
| Fulton | Gardiner |
| Gauthier | Gray (Windsor West) |
| Guarnieri | Harb |
| Harvard | Hopkins |
| Hovdebo | Keyes |
| Langan (Mission—Coquitlam) | Langdon (Essex—Windsor) |
| Laporte | MacDonald (Dartmouth) |
| MacLaren | Maheu |
| Manley | Marleau |
| McCurdy | McGuire |
| Mifflin | Milliken |
| Mitchell | Murphy |
| Nystrom | Phinney |
| Pickard | Proud |
| Prud'homme | Riis |
| Robinson | Simmons |
| Speller | Taylor |
| Vancielief | Walker |
| Wood—55 | |

• (1150)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I declare the motion carried.

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POINT OF ORDER

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Mr. Patrick Boyer (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order to see whether at this juncture you would seek the consent of the House to permit the Secretary of State for External Affairs to make a brief statement on Canadian foreign policy relating to Cambodia. It is a statement of which the opposition critics for External Affairs are aware and would be able to respond to in the normal fashion.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: On the same point of order, first the member for Ottawa—Vanier followed by the member for Kamloops.

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I have two points. On the first point, Routine Proceedings calls for Statements by Ministers to be made in that time. The government shot itself in the foot, moved that the House proceed to Government Orders and, of course, did forgo its right to make a statement.

The second point is that we have committees sitting at this time. I do not think it is proper to have committees sit when this House votes on important matters such as we just did. I would like to have a ruling from the Speaker. If committees must continue to sit then we must have a ruling from the Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: On the first point, the member for Kamloops.

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I must say that I do not quite understand what the request means. Under the daily routine of business, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader responded to the call for Tabling of Documents. The next order of business was Statements by Ministers. I realize that the Secretary of State for External Affairs was in his place ready to make a statement. It came as a surprise to all of us that the parliamentary secretary decided to introduce a dilatory motion to move directly to Government Orders which would sabotage the Secretary of State for External Affairs' intention of making a statement.

I would like to seek clarification before we proceed further on this point of order. I would like to know why the government did what it did if it was going to actually make it impossible for the Secretary of State for External Affairs to make his statement.

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Government House Leader): Mr. Speaker, if I may respond to the comments by both members of the opposition. Number one, we, as a government are very much interested in debating the legislation in the House of Commons at any time. Yesterday the NDP hijacked Parliament, wasted an entire day. When we could have been getting on with the serious issues of the day they were playing games.

Some hon. members: Order.

Mr. Cooper: As long as they continue to behave in that childish fashion and continue to make public statements that they are going to tie up this House of Commons and refuse proper debate in this House, we are going to continue to move, by whatever means we can, to assure this House and its members the opportunity to debate the legislation.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cooper: With that in mind we make a very simple request; that the Secretary of State for External Affairs