Administration of Justice

With all due respect, I believe the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, the Leader of the Opposition and the hon. member for Kamloops, as, indeed, most of the hon. members who have taken part in this debate on the question of procedure, would have to agree with the Chair that this is not a motion which could be accepted at this time. It is irregular for reasons which I gave in detail when I ruled out three previous motions. I can assure hon. members that it is with a sad heart that the Chair must come to this conclusion because nothing would please me more than to be able to accept a motion which would take this matter away from the responsibility of the Chair, upon whose shoulders, it has been suggested, it now rests. But I am prepared to accept my responsibility and my responsibility is to decide that this motion should not be accepted, and I so rule.

Mr. Lambert: Mr. Speaker, if I may say so, I agree with your judgment in this regard. But I had hoped that hon. members opposite would have borne in mind Standing Order 42 which says:

A motion may, in case of urgent and pressing necessity previously explained by the mover, be made by unanimous consent of the House without notice having been given under Standing Order 41.

It was with this sentiment in mind that I advanced my motion.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker-

Mr. Olson: Under standing order 42 I should like to move the following motion—

• (4:20 p.m.)

Mr. Speaker: I understand that the hon. member for Medicine Hat has a proposition or another motion to make and I am prepared to hear him.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, before that I wish to be helpful to Your Honour. I have a suggestion to make.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps I could hear the hon. member for Medicine Hat and before proceeding any further after I have heard him I will hear the hon. member for Yukon. I do not wish to be unfair to the hon. member for Yukon but two members rose at the same time and I recognized the hon. member for Medicine Hat. I suggest that perhaps I can hear him without prejudice to the hon. member's suggestion.

[Mr. Speaker.]

[Translation]

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order—

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member for Medicine Hat on a point of order.

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, under standing order 42 I would ask the unanimous consent of the house to accept the following motion:

That a special committee be set up, composed of seven members of this house; and that the special committee be empowered to consider the "procedural impasse" respecting the alleged questions of privilege and report its recommendations to this house by 2.30 p.m. on March 17, 1966.

There may be some difficulty in respect of the language. I think you will realize, Mr. Speaker, that this motion was written here at my desk within the last few minutes. I hope it will be accepted by the house as a means of finding some way around this procedural impasse. In this committee there could be cool and thoughtful consideration given to some way to deal with the matter.

[Translation]

Mr. Allard: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. At the beginning of the sitting this afternoon—

Mr. Speaker: Order. Before hearing the hon. member for Sherbrooke, who has risen on a point of order—

[English]

I should like to refer to the motion made by the hon. member for Medicine Hat who moved, seconded by Mr. Thompson, that a special committee, composed of seven members of this house, be empowered to consider the procedural impasse respecting the alleged questions of privilege and report its recommendation to the house by 2.30 p.m., March 17, 1966. This is the same type of a motion as one submitted to the Chair previously. I advised the hon. member for Yukon that I would do nothing to prejudice his position. I understood from what he said that he had a helpful suggestion for the Chair. The hon. member for the Yukon.

Mr. Nielsen: Your Honour has a motion before you now. I was going to suggest that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre pointed out a Standing Order of which Your Honour might avail himself in order to regularize the first motion by striking out the words which appeared to be offensive to the