

Official Languages

Mr. Horner: They must not like what I am saying.

Some hon. Members: Carry on.

Mr. Speaker: I again ask if there is unanimous consent of the house.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Horner: It does not really matter. They do not listen anyway. Once before the hon. member tried to give me additional time but his group would not listen.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Is the house ready for the question on the amendment of the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis)?

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: The question is on the amendment. All those in favour of the amendment will please say, yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

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

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it, and the amendment is lost on division.

Amendment (Mr. Lewis) negatived, on division.

Mr. Speaker: The question is now on the main motion. All those in favour will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

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

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five members having risen:

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Orders and the advice I gave to the house earlier this week, this vote will be deferred.

Perhaps I should be allowed to express an afterthought in connection with the motion proposed by the hon. member for Cardigan (Mr. McQuaid). As hon. members will note from a reading of pages 4 and 5 of today's order paper, that motion proposes to amend clauses 28, 29 and 30 of Bill C-120. It appears

each motion at the report stage should actually be directed to a specified clause of a bill rather than a number of clauses. Such motions, I submit, should not relate to two or more clauses, as in the case of the motion proposed by the hon. member for Cardigan. It is my submission that at the report stage of a bill it is intended that every provision of a bill may be isolated and dealt with directly.

The motion proposed by the hon. member for Cardigan, which will be voted upon later, tends to thwart the operation of that principle. A complex motion dealing with several clauses of a bill inevitably leads to complicated amendments which further confuse and becloud the question being considered. I think my point will be apparent to those hon. members who studied the amendment to the motion which was advanced by the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis). I might say it was actually the amendment moved by the hon. member for York South which made the Chair realize that perhaps the motion, as it had been proposed, should have been split in three. I should say that the motion of the hon. member for Cardigan should have been split into three motions rather than a single motion, but this perhaps may be a bit too technical.

I say this to protect the position of the Chair if on other occasions motions of this nature are proposed at the report stage. All this having been said, it is in the nature of an afterthought because a motion had been accepted, put to the house and will be voted on in due course.

Mr. Baldwin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. May I be permitted to add a postscript to Your Honour's afterthought? This problem concerned the mover of the motion, the hon. member for Cardigan (Mr. McQuaid) and others in this party. Possibly what I have to say should be directed not only to Your Honour but also to members of the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization when they deal in the future with matters more important and more consequential than the report which was filed today. As Your Honour realizes, we are groping around trying to find our way through the new rules.

Frequently an amendment involves a certain number of clauses. In order to secure an appropriate consequential amendment, it may be desirable to try and include in one motion the various clauses of the original bill which have to be modified to bring about the principle which the mover of the amendment has in mind. I just mention this, your Honour, so