

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion carried.

Mr. POULIOT: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the government—

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, on a question of order: I have no desire to be constantly rising to refer to matters of order, but I heard your honour say that the motion made by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning) that this resolution be considered by the committee was carried, and that the Speaker do leave the chair. If that is so—

Mr. DUNNING: I did not make a motion that the Speaker leave the chair.

Mr. BENNETT: That is what was said, as far as I could hear. There was some noise in the chamber.

Mr. DUNNING: I made the usual notice of motion to make it possible for the resolution in question to be considered when the house goes into committee of the whole.

Mr. BENNETT: That was done by the Prime Minister.

Hon. H. H. STEVENS (Kootenay East): Mr. Speaker, I confess I do not quite follow the ruling—it may be a sad reflection on myself. The motion, as I understood it, was that Mr. Speaker should leave the chair and the house resolve itself into committee of the whole to consider this resolution. I understood your honour to say that such a resolution was not debatable. I personally am under the impression that it is debatable, although I confess I may be mistaken, and I think that, for the purpose of good order in the house, we ought to have that point made perfectly clear. I may be entirely wrong, but I should like your honour to explain just why that motion upon which the hon. member for Témiscouata (Mr. Pouliot) desired to speak is not a debatable motion.

Mr. POULIOT: Mr. Speaker, in the meantime may I ask the government if they have superannuated General McNaughton and Colonel Steel, the former a member of the national research council and the latter of the radio broadcasting commission, at the lowest rate of superannuation before imposing a cut of five per cent on all civil servants?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I understand the question which my hon. friend has just asked was on the order paper and was answered some days ago.

Mr. POULIOT: No, it was not in that form, and I put it again in this very shape.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion to which the hon. member for Kootenay East (Mr. Stevens) refers was a motion that the house go into committee of the whole at the next sitting of the house. This is the motion which I said was not debatable.

Mr. STEVENS: May I call to your attention, Mr. Speaker, for the sake of accuracy, the fact that that form of motion was not properly put. I think the motion should have read, "at the next sitting of the house." Had it been done in that way I should not have taken objection.

Motion agreed to.

#### HAMILTON HARBOUR COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. JOSEPH JEAN (Mercier): Mr. Speaker, I notice in the public press a statement to the effect that there is to be appointed a board of harbour commissioners for the city of Hamilton. Does that mean that at some ports there will be harbour commissions, notwithstanding the decision of the government to abolish those commissions?

Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Railways and Canals): The harbours of Canada are of two categories. There are seven ports which are definitely national ports, and in all of which the government has a very substantial investment. In addition to that there are some five or six other ports, such as Hamilton, Toronto, New Westminster—to name only a few—in which the government has no substantial investment, and in which the city has attended to the development of the particular port; these ports have been administered by harbour commissions, on which the city has representation, and in such cases it is not the intention of the government to make any change in the system of administration. The reason, and I think the only reason, why the government has the appointment in some cases of one and in other cases of two harbour commissioners is that the commission is charged with the carrying out of certain government regulations.

#### GERMAN CONSCRIPTION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. S. WOODSWORTH (Winnipeg North Centre): Before the orders of the day are called may I point out that the afternoon papers carry a dispatch from Montreal that Ludwig Kempff, Consul General for Germany in Canada, announced to-day in Montreal that German citizens living in Canada and Newfoundland are to be conscripted for possible service in Germany. The state-