

**Mr. Pickersgill:** The hon. gentleman can call "Shame" all he likes. He poses as a great authority on the rules.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** He knows he can never win an election and sit on this side of the house, and he is trying indirectly to substitute himself for the government—and to substitute his motion for the message from the crown that would have to precede any such measure which the government alone, under our parliamentary system, has the right to bring forward.

Not only is the hon. member doing that but he is seeking by a procedural motion to direct this house in advance that it must pass this bill which we have never seen and whose contents we do not know anything about. The hon. member is seeking to say that the Senate must also pass this bill because he says we are not to adjourn until the bill is ready for royal assent.

I suggest that not only is the hon. member vastly expanding the motion but he is seeking to do indirectly what he knows perfectly well, as a private member who has never been able to get enough confidence in this country to sit on this side of the house, he could never do directly.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Transport always manages, under the guise of dealing with a point of order, to bring in all the political connotations he possibly can.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Douglas:** If there is anyone who ought not to be talking about the confidence of the country, it is a government that is now trying to find refuge behind the rules of the house to cover up the fact that they have betrayed a promise they made to the retired civil servants of Canada.

**Mr. Benson:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I understand that the minister wants to rise on a question of privilege. I have the impression that we are now slowly slipping into the debate which might take place, and which I assume will take place, either on the amendment proposed by the hon. member if it is accepted and, if not, on the motion itself. The motion is, of course, a debatable one and hon. members

*Motion for Adjournment*

have at least this day to debate it. Therefore I suggest that we try to limit our consideration at the moment and follow the excellent example of the right hon. Leader of the Opposition a moment ago. Having made these comments, I recognize the Minister of National Revenue on his question of privilege.

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Revenue and President of the Treasury Board):** My question of privilege is this, Mr. Speaker. It has been implied several times that something would be done by a specific date. This is just not the case, and hon. members opposite know it as well as I do. The committee reported back in May. The government has been considering the matter. I have stated that it is under active consideration and that I hope action will be taken in due course.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Hope springs in due course.

**Mr. Benson:** But at no time has the government promised that action would be taken before the house adjourns.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Douglas:** Mr. Speaker, the fact is that a promise was made. Whether a date was attached to it or not, the time has come for the promise to be implemented. These promises are made with an indefinite date in mind which never seems to arrive. They are the Hamlets of Canada—tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow. But tomorrow never comes.

I agree with Your Honour that we are getting off the point of order, but I can assure Your Honour the debate started to slip in that direction before I rose to my feet. May I deal with the point of order raised by the Minister of Transport. It is with reference to the phrase "and to any other measures." If the house has the right to discuss any other measures before the adjournment, then surely the house also has the right, in the control of its own business, to indicate what one of those measures should be. The item which the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre is seeking to have the house delineate as an item for discussion prior to the adjournment for a summer recess is that having to do with pensions for retired civil servants. It seems to me that since the government itself put this phrase into the motion the house has the right now to indicate what item it would like to discuss prior to the adjournment.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I thank hon. members for their assistance to me in ruling on the very interesting point of order raised