

debates in the House also apply to the debates which take place in committees, and members, chairmen and acting chairmen are subject to the same rules there as they are in the House of Commons.

Whether the matter might be looked into further by a committee of the House or the Committee on Procedure and Organization, as suggested by the hon. member, is another question. I assure him that I consider this as a serious matter. If hon. members agree, I should like to have an opportunity to look into it a little more closely and, if hon. members do not think it an untoward action, to have a discussion with the Clerk of the committee, receive a report from him, and perhaps look at the evidence. At that time it might be easier for the Chair to determine whether this is the kind of situation that ought to be considered by the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization. I must say that while, generally speaking, it is a commendable action for the House to refer to a committee a matter of principle on which there can be debate in the committee and a recommendation made to the House, I have always had some hesitation about suggesting that proceedings in one committee be considered by another committee. I wonder what might come of it.

● (2:30 p.m.)

The motion proposed by the hon. member is very sensible in that the hon. member does not ask that an investigation be carried out in this particular instance, but rather that the general application of our Standing Orders to committees should be studied by the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization. It may well be that hon. members might agree that this question ought to be studied by that committee. With the consent of the House I will take the matter under advisement, study the evidence and communicate with the House later on this subject.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, in connection with the ruling, there was an occasion last week of which Your Honour is aware and I have some reason to know that it is an impropriety to make critical remarks within this House about the conduct of a chairman of a committee. In the course of his remarks, the hon. member for Mackenzie made an allegation of partiality against the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Agriculture. I do not intend to propose a motion at this point in view of the ruling of the Chair, but I would like to

#### *New Unemployment Insurance Program*

bring this question to Your Honour's attention. In view of that allegation, and the clear rule of this House, I think the House will also have to consider the remarks of the hon. member for Mackenzie this afternoon. They are clearly against the rule.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I doubt whether we should pursue the matter. I will look into all aspects of the situation. I can assure the President of the Privy Council, the hon. member for Mackenzie and the hon. member for Lac-Saint-Jean that I will look into the situation and either reach a decision or make a ruling which might be acceptable to hon. members.

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

#### TABLING OF WHITE PAPER—STATEMENT BY MINISTER ON NEW PROGRAM

**Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the government, it gives me great pleasure to table a white paper outlining a proposed new unemployment insurance program. My statement is rather brief.

The plan is the culmination of a relatively long period of consultation and study. It takes into account a number of the recommendations in the report of the Gill Committee and incorporates many representations received from labour, management and other interested groups.

The proposals contained in the white paper confirm the desire of this government to promote social policies that build the country not simply for progress but for people, people who must be adequately nourished, whose potential must be met and whose children must be well educated and, above all, people who must have jobs. The new emphasis will be on individual development coupled with adequate income support.

To this end, the plan will provide for a series of up to three interviews for all those who suffer from interruptions of earnings due to loss of work. These interviews are intended primarily to aid the individual in his search for employment. They will also help, however, to identify those persons who should not be receiving benefits.