

Judges Act and Financial Act

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Mackenzie.

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I thank you and the House for giving me an opportunity to say with respect to the comments that I made yesterday, whether within the chamber or from behind the curtain, that they were not meant personally in so far as the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) was concerned. I apologize to him if in any way I inconvenienced him, or if in any way I inconvenienced the government, or if in any way I inconvenienced any member or supporter of the government.

I hold strong sentiments, Mr. Speaker. I think all of those who have been associated with me must realize that I express my attitudes forcefully, and sometimes I am carried away. I think that yesterday I was carried away, and I apologize very sincerely to the Minister of Agriculture. I know that he can be a very good minister.

I find myself in a very difficult position. I am as sincere as possible in pushing my convictions, just as sincere as I am in opposing some of the convictions held by the government. But if there was anything personal in what I said yesterday, I apologize. I do this humbly and with sincerity. I do not mean any malice towards the minister.

I repeat that I am sincere in my convictions in opposing government policies and that sometimes I can be carried away. But as humbly as I can on this particular occasion, I apologize if I expressed any attitude that personally affected a member of the House. That is not my intention here. I believe that I attempted to support the viewpoint of my constituents. I ask you, Mr. Speaker, to convey my apologies to the Minister of Agriculture because I, personally, do not have any malice towards him.

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I accept the apology and I hope it will be noted that the reference was to those comments which appear on page 8127 of *Hansard* and which are now withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. If it is the unanimous wish of hon. members I am prepared to make a ruling now. With respect to the hon. member for Skeena seeking the floor, I would point out that he did argue the point of order well and forcefully, and at some length. I would think he has no right, unless there is unanimous consent for him to do so, to speak further on that point of order. Is there unanimous consent that the Chair make a ruling at this point?

Mr. Peters: No. One o'clock.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is no unanimous consent. Pursuant to the arrangements made earlier today this debate is now interrupted. It being one o'clock I do now leave the Chair until 2 p.m.

At one o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

JUDGES ACT AND FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION ACT**AMENDMENTS RESPECTING JUDGES' SALARIES AND ANNUITIES, AUDITOR GENERAL'S SALARY**

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-243, to amend the Judges Act and the Financial Administration Act, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. For the purpose of considering the study of report stage of Bill C-243, I should like to make the following comment as to the procedure of debate. It is suggested by the Chair that motions Nos. 1 and 5 be grouped together afterwards if necessary. It is also suggested that motions Nos. 2 and 3 be grouped for debate, and again they would be voted upon separately, and finally, that motion No. 4 be disposed of separately. If the House agrees, we could follow this procedure and the Chair would accept any comments or suggestions from hon. members.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, we can agree to that. I might just say on that point that motions Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 5 come as unanimous recommendations from the committee. The reason that the committee could not dispose of those amendments was that they involve the balance of ways and means and needed the recommendation and the approval of this House. Motion No. 4 in the name of the hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters) was not considered in committee and should be dealt with by the House.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): The hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard).

Mr. Woolliams: Just before we start, I wonder if I could speak for a moment.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The Chair has recognized the hon. member for Skeena and will then come back to the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams).

Mr. Woolliams: This is a point of order with reference to what you are saying and should be made now to keep chronological order. I think your recommendation or suggestion is an excellent one. These are short amendments; there is not a lot to them in the sense of changing the details of the measure. You are either for them or against them. I would hope that we would be able to finish this bill today because it was held up last June.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard).

Mr. Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, that obviously was not a point of order that the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams) had but just a device to get the floor.

The grouping suggested by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) is acceptable and if he would just say that motions Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are acceptable to the government, perhaps they could be disposed of without a great deal of lengthy debate.