

Alleged Issue of Document on New Rules

It might be well to put on record again comments made by the Prime Minister a few short years ago. They appeared in a magazine, and were quoted at page 2801 of *Hansard* for November 15, 1968. In particular the Prime Minister, as reported on that page of *Hansard*, wrote these words as they are set out in the article in question:

I am only concerned with the anti-democratic reflexes of spineless Liberal herd.

We thought that those words applied to a situation of the past. I urge the right hon. gentleman to rise and say publicly that hon. members of his party have every freedom to go into a committee room under the committee system which now prevails and vote as they see fit; and that in the discussion of those questions which are important and of benefit to the people of Canada they have full freedom of expression which members of parliament must have to discharge their responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt that it is the intention of hon. members to have protracted discussion on the point of privilege raised by the hon. member for Peace River. The Chair has to decide whether there is a prima facie case of privilege. I think that the Chair can immediately, without further debate, make a ruling on that point. I am sure if one hon. member is allowed to participate further in the debate it may go on for a while. Wednesday is a short day, and perhaps we ought to go on to the business on today's order paper.

I suggest that if any group of hon. members or any one hon. member is concerned about the question of privilege, it would be hon. members of the government or the hon. member for York East (Mr. Otto). The matter has

not been raised as a question of privilege by the hon. member for York East, and I doubt very much if, in the circumstances, the hon. member for Peace River has raised a legitimate question of privilege. In any event, the question has not been followed by a motion. There being no motion before the house I suggest that the Chair has no alternative except to declare that there shall be no discussion.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The Prime Minister is saved.

FINANCE, TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Ninth report of Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.—Mr. Gillespie.

[*Editor's Note: Text of report above referred to appears in today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

SANDFORD, N.S.—CONTRACTS TO L. W. SHAW

Question No. 914—**Mr. Comeau:**

How many contracts have been awarded to Leonard W. Shaw, of Sandford, N.S. since 1963 and what was the value of each?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): Since 1963, the following contracts were awarded as a result of public tender calls on which he was the lowest bidder:

1964		
Comeau's Hill		\$
Short Beach	Wharf repairs	5,287.00
Lr. Surettes Island	Deck repairs	6,476.40
	Wharf extension	2,969.50
1965		
Yarmouth	Paving	4,987.10
Bear Point	Deck repairs	6,476.40
Spectacle Island	Breakwater construction	9,919.00
1966		
Short Beach	Breakwater repairs	8,939.60
Deep Cove	Breakwater	12,006.25
1967		
Sandford	Groyne reconstruction	9,277.60
Seal Island	Skidway repair	8,667.00
Swim's Point	Repair floating breakwater	2,654.80
Pinkney's Point	Wharf widening	50,112.96
Port Maitland	Breakwater repairs	15,071.50

[Mr. Baldwin.]