

*Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation*

debate; but particularly as, at the moment, the hon. member for Eglinton is not in the house—

**Mr. Bell:** That does not matter to them.

**Mr. Cannon:** He should be here.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order. I think it is my duty to say that the arguments, statements or accusations which may have been made by the hon. member for Eglinton are open to answer but I think personal remarks about him go beyond that.

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** I wish to say just a few words about the point of order and I hope I shall not stray from that point of order. The hon. gentleman who raised the point of order submitted the terms of the motion of which I gave notice in the house on the 30th and then submitted the terms of the motion that I submitted to the Chair on the 31st. Though he had reservations about the validity of the motion that I was submitting, and though those objections were made the object of points of order that were discussed very learnedly and at considerable length, they were resolved and your decision was upheld by a vote of the house.

Now, the question that the hon. gentleman submits in his point of order is that because the motion was put before the committee yesterday and was not disposed of until today it had no further validity.

**Mr. Nicholson:** This sitting.

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** The hon. gentleman who is interrupting says "this sitting". Well, "this sitting" means the sitting at which the committee makes the decision, and that is the terms of the motion, that at this sitting—

**Mr. Nicholson:** This sitting of the committee.

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** This sitting of the committee.

**Mr. Nicholson:** Page 4498.

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):**

That at this sitting of the committee of the whole house on Bill No. 298, an act to establish the Northern Ontario Pipe Line Crown Corporation, the further consideration of clauses 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, the title of the said bill, and any amendments proposed thereto, shall be the first business of this committee and shall not further be postponed.

Now, that is the motion that was adopted this afternoon by this committee and the sitting that we are continuing at the present time is this sitting to which the motion applies, and that is because of the general overriding rule that is in standing order 7 that if:

At the ordinary time of adjournment of the house, unless otherwise provided, the proceedings

[The Deputy Chairman.]

shall be interrupted and the business under consideration at the termination of the sitting shall stand over until the next sitting day when it will be taken up at the same stage where its progress was interrupted.

Now, there can be no doubt that there was business before the committee that was interrupted at the end of the sitting, and the ordinary time of adjournment having prevented that business from being completed, it was to be taken up at the same stage where its progress had been interrupted. Its progress had been interrupted by an appeal to the house from the ruling you had made in respect of the validity of the motion. That appeal went before the house and was disposed of by the house and the committee resumed and proceeded to take up the business which had been interrupted at the same stage where its progress was interrupted. You took it up at the same stage at which its progress was interrupted and the question you then put to the committee was whether or not the motion:

That at this sitting of the committee of the whole house on Bill 298, an act to establish the Northern Ontario Pipe Line Crown Corporation, shall be the first business of the committee and shall not further be postponed.

And that was the decision that was made at this sitting and which applies to this sitting, and being applicable to this sitting, I submit to you, sir, that the point of order taken by the hon. member for Eglinton is not well founded, and that the contention that he put before you that any proceedings had today on this motion are a nullity is a contention that is contrary to the action of the house when it voted on the appeal that had been taken from the ruling you made on the validity of that motion. It was a recognition of the application to the proceedings of this general rule, standing order 7, and a proper application.

After all, you know, these rules are not made merely for the purpose of providing dilatory proceedings to prevent the business of the house from being transacted. They are made for the purpose of providing for an orderly conduct and progress of the business of the house.

**Mr. Rowe:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** Yes; I think we are all in full agreement on that.

**Mr. Rowe:** That is what they are meant for, yes.

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** That is what they are meant for.

**Mr. Rowe:** But not abuse.