

Resolved,—That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House a copy of all correspondence and other documents between the Government of Canada and the Government of Saskatchewan concerning implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Health Services, or any steps preliminary thereto, since May 22, 1964.—(*Notice of Motion for the Production of Papers No. 111—Mr. Douglas*).

Resolved,—That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House a copy of all correspondence and other documents between the Minister of Finance and the Premier of Saskatchewan concerning a request by the Government of Saskatchewan for changes in the application of tax regulations as they affect potash mines using the solution method of mining.—(*Notice of Motion for the Production of Papers No. 112—Mr. Douglas*).

Pursuant to Special Order made on Monday, March 21, 1966, it was proposed by Messrs. Byrne, Nugent, Scott (Danforth) and Stanbury,—

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Criminal Code for the purposes of

- (a) abolishing the death penalty in respect of all offences under that Act;
- (b) substituting a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment in those cases where the death penalty is now mandatory; and
- (c) providing that no person upon whom a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment is imposed shall be released from imprisonment without the prior approval of the Governor in Council.—(*Notice of Motion No. 66*).

And debate arising thereon and continuing;

#### RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: This afternoon, the honourable Members for Sherbrooke and Lapointe (Messrs. Allard and Grégoire) suggested that I should take the initiative and divide the resolution which is under consideration now. Since then, I had the opportunity to study the suggestions made by the honourable Members and to read attentively the remarks they made during their interventions.

I do not think that I can change the opinion I gave this afternoon, to the effect that this resolution is not of the kind which the Speaker would be justified to deal with in the way suggested by the honourable Members. In my opinion, there is only one proposition before the House, which deals with the abolition of the death penalty, and the other aspects of the question are rather of a secondary nature and could not, in the circumstances, be separated from the initial proposition and made into separate resolutions. It is only in exceptional circumstances and when there is little doubt about it that the Speaker can intervene and, of his own initiative, amend the resolution proposed by an honourable Member.

In this case, as I said, I do not think that I would be justified to take this initiative.

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And debate continuing;