

General, Department of Manpower, Department of the Registrar General, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and Department of Energy, Mines and Resources; to establish the offices of the Ministers of those departments and to provide for the respective powers, duties and functions of the Ministers thereof; to establish the office of President of the Treasury Board; to provide for the appointment of deputy heads of the new departments and for the appointment in the manner authorized by law of other officers and employees; to authorize the transfer of appropriations to the new departments and other departments to which the functions for which such appropriations were made are assigned; to amend the Financial Administration Act and the Salaries Act and generally to make such other consequential or incidental statutory amendments as are necessary to implement the changes to be effected by the said measure.

Resolved,—That the House do go into Committee of the Whole at its next sitting to consider the said proposed resolution.

The Order for the House to resolve itself into Committee of Supply being read for the second time pursuant to Standing Order 56(2); and Resolutions adopted June 11, 1965 and January 21, 1966;

Mr. Sharp, seconded by Miss LaMarsh, moved,—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the House to resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

And debate arising thereon;

The honourable Minister of Public Works (Mr. McIlraith) raised a point of order to the effect that the honourable Member for Royal (Mr. Fairweather) was seeking to deal with a portion of the evidence which is now in the course of being given before a royal commission, and that where a matter is before a royal commission or a Court, it is not proper for the House to discuss it during the currency of the taking of the evidence.

After debate on the said point of order;

RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: After hearing these very learned comments I think honourable Members would expect the Chair to express an opinion about the point raised by the Minister of Public Works (Mr. McIlraith).

I think I should mention honestly to the House that this is a point I have had in the back of my mind for some days. It was brought to the forefront when questions were asked during the question period last week. The questions asked at that time were not allowed at that particular moment but I did not want to convey the impression that these questions could not be debated at all in the House. It was my feeling that because of the way in which the questions were posed they were not so urgent.

However, this raised the issue and I had to consider the matter further when I received notice that the honourable Members who had asked them wanted to debate them on the Adjournment Motion. This put me in a position where I thought I should give the matter very serious consideration, which I did over the weekend, and particularly this morning. Briefly I might say I agree substantially with the views expressed by honourable Members who have taken part in the debate, for reasons which I will now give.

In a general way, the principles that govern the *sub judice* doctrine are found in the following quotations: Lord Campion in May's Parliamentary Practice, 16th edition, at page 400 states: "A matter whilst under adjudication