

Time Allocation

port under Standing Order 82 where a two-hour debate is to take place after which—and the Standing Order is quite clear in this when it says:

Not more than two hours after the commencement of proceedings thereon, the Speaker shall put every question necessary to dispose of the said motion.

It seems that the two-hour limit hangs on the interpretation that is given to “proceedings”. I am very fortunate in that I do not have to interpret it myself. It has been interpreted by other greater authorities than I and interpreted based on the experience of several Parliaments, including our own. I will read back to the Hon. Member from Erskine May’s Nineteenth Edition, which is the one I have, but I think the wording has not changed very much as he says. It reads as follows:

The primary meaning, as a technical parliamentary term, of “proceedings” . . . is some formal action, usually a decision, taken by the House in its collective capacity. This is naturally extended to the forms of business in which the House takes action, and the whole process, the principal part of which is debate—

As debate is the principal part of it, it does mean that “proceeding” may have other parts to it, namely all other actions which may be taken by Members, such as voting, presenting amendments, presenting motions, etc.

An individual Member takes part in a proceeding usually by his speech but also by various kinds of formal action, such as voting, giving notice of a motion, etc., or presenting a petition or a report of a committee, most of such actions being time-saving substitutes for speaking.

● (1750)

I will read from Beauchesne’s “Interpretation of Proceedings”:

Motions, amendments, references to committees, and the three readings of bills come under the term of “proceedings in Parliament” . . . The word “proceeding” is derived from the verb “to proceed” which means “to advance” or “to carry on a series of actions”. Members take part in the proceedings usually by making speeches; however, many proceedings take place without any debate. Speeches are not essential; they either help or hinder a proceeding—

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: It is nice to see that Beauchesne had a fabulous sense of humour!

—but they are not a proceeding.

It seems clear to me that I am obliged by Standing Order 82, as it states very clearly “two hours after the commencement of the proceedings”, to take all votes necessary to dispose of the question.

The Hon. Member argued that it is all votes necessary to the “said motion”, as the Standing Order said. I agree with the Hon. Member that “said motion” means the motion presented by the Minister of Transport. However, in the way of “said motion” I have another motion, and the House must dispose of that motion, which is the motion presented by the Hon. Member for Vegreville.

If I were to deal with that motion afterward, that motion simply would not make sense. Therefore, the motion presented by the Hon. Member for Vegreville is in the way of the motion with which I must now deal, according to Standing Orders,

two hours and some after the commencement of the proceedings. Therefore I am obliged to put the question to the House.

The House divided on the motion (Mr. Mazankowski) which was negated on the following division:

(Division No. 371)

YEAS

Messrs.

Allhouse	Halliday	Mulroney
Andre	Hamilton	Munro
Beatty	(Swift Current-Maple Creek)	(Esquimalt-Saanich)
Benjamin	Hargrave	Murphy
Blackburn	Hawkes	Neil
Blaikie	Heap	Nickerson
Blenkarn	Hovdebo	Nielsen
Bradley	Howie	Nowlan
Broadbent	Huntington	Nystrom
Cardiff	Jarvis	Ogle
Clark	Jewett (Miss)	Orlikow
(Brandon-Souris)	Keeper	Parker
Coates	Kempling	Patterson
Cook	Kilgour	Riis
Cooper	King	Robinson
Corbett	Knowles	(Burnaby)
Cossitt (Mrs.)	Kristiansen	Roche
Crombie	Kushner	St. Germain
Crosby	Lambert	Sargeant
(Halifax West)	La Salle	Schellenberger
Crouse	Lawrence	Scott
Darling	Lewis	(Hamilton-Wentworth)
Deans	MacDougall	Scott
de Jong	Malone	(Victoria-Haliburton)
Dick	Manly	Shields
Ellis	Mayer	Skelly
Elzinga	Mazankowski	Speyer
Epp	McCain	Stevens
Fennell	McCuish	Stewart
Forrestall	McDermid	Taylor
Fraser	McGrath	Thacker
Fretz	McKenzie	Thomson
Fulton	McKinnon	Towers
Gamble	McKnight	Waddell
Gass	McLean	Wilson
Gilchrist	McMillan	Wright
Gurbin	Mitchell (Mrs.)	Young—105.
Gustafson		

NAYS

Messrs.

Allmand	Cullen	Gingras
Appolloni (Mrs.)	Cyr	Gourd
Axworthy	Dawson	(Argenteuil-Papineau)
Bachand	De Bané	Gray
Baker	de Cornille	Harquail
(Gander-Twillingate)	Demers	Henderson
Beauchamp-Niquet	Dingwall	Herbert
(Mrs.)	Dion	Hervieux-Payette
Bégin (Miss)	Dionne	(Mrs.)
Berger	(Chicoutimi)	Hopkins
Bloomfield	Dubois	Hudecki
Bockstael	Duclos	Irwin
Bossy	Dupont	Isabelle
Breau	Dupras	Ittinuar
Bujold	Duquet	Johnston
Bussièeres	Erola (Mrs.)	Joyal
Caccia	Ethier	Kaplan
Campbell (Miss)	Evans	Kelly
(South West Nova)	Ferguson	Lachance
Campbell	Fisher	Lajoie
(Cardigan)	Fleming	Lalonde
Chénier	Flis	Lamontagne
Chrétien	Foster	Landers
Collenette	Fox	Lang
Comtois	Garant	Laniel
Corriveau	Gauthier	Lapierre
Côté (Mrs.)	Gendron	Lapointe
Cousineau	Gimaiel	(Beauce)