

• (8:10 p.m.)

Mr. Starr: Call the yeas and nays, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Sharp: I think the hon. member misunderstood—

Mr. Starr: Order, please. Mr. Speaker, please call the yeas and nays.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon. member addressing his remarks to the Chair?

Mr. Starr: Your Honour called third reading and we should like you now to call the yeas and nays. I wish the Clerk would sit down.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Shall I put the motion, as moved by the Minister of Finance?

Mr. Starr: That is right, yes.

Mr. Robichaud: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Starr: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Your Honour called third reading and we have asked for the yeas and nays to be called. Let us proceed now, and not retract.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I have put the motion for third reading as moved by the Minister of Finance.

An hon. Member: But it was not seconded.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. MacEachen: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Finance has not moved the third reading of the bill, and the motion has not been seconded.

An hon. Member: Oh, yes, it has.

Mr. MacEachen: With respect, it has not been.

Mr. Starr: What is the minister trying to do?

Mr. Sharp: Nothing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Do I understand that the Minister of Finance does not want the bill to be read a third time now?

An hon. Member: At the next sitting of the house.

Mr. Sharp: No, no.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Churchill: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. You asked the house, "Shall the

Income Tax Act

bill be read now a third time," and the answer of the house was, yes. That put the matter in the category of where Your Honour must put the motion, and you were proceeding to put the motion. It automatically follows that the Minister of Finance, who is the mover of the bill, has called for or is moving for third reading, and I do not see how any retraction can occur at this time.

The house was specifically asked by Your Honour whether the bill should be read a third time, and the answer of the house was, yes. Your Honour should proceed with the instructions of the house. The Speaker carries out the instructions of the house always; that is what the Speaker does. Your Honour knows what the house has instructed you to do and we should proceed to third reading.

Mr. Robichaud: Mr. Speaker, I was sitting next to the Minister of Finance—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Robichaud:—and when you stated that the Minister of Finance moves the third reading of the bill, the Minister of Finance, from his seat, said "No".

Mr. Starr: The minister is mistaken, surely, because it did not happen that way.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I have no objection to third reading. I did not move the motion, and I am sorry if Your Honour misunderstood. I was trying to catch your eye. If it is the wish of the house, I am perfectly happy to have third reading.

Mr. Starr: Then why is the minister trying to hold up parliament?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Perhaps the house would allow me a moment to clear up the difficulty. When I asked whether there should be third reading I understood that there was no objection.

Mr. Starr: That is right.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I then proceeded to put the regular motion. In the meantime, I understand that there was some objection to third reading. If there was, I apologize, because I did not hear the objection.

Mr. Starr: Would Your Honour call the yeas and nays.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the house wish to proceed with the motion for third reading?

Mr. Starr: Yes.