

Motions

Madam Speaker: I am really consulting to find out whether the Hon. Minister had already said "Madam Speaker".

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Madam Speaker: Obviously if he had already said Madam Speaker, he already had the floor legitimately.

Mr. Nielsen: Madam Speaker, the record will show that regardless of what you may or may not have seen the President of the Privy Council do or not do, the Chair clearly recognized, and was heard by Members to have recognized, the Hon. Member for Vegreville.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nielsen: The Hon. Member for Vegreville then, at the invitation of the Speaker, rose and put his motion. I suggest—

An Hon. Member: On a point of order.

Mr. Nielsen: I suggest, Madam Speaker, that the Chair has no alternative now than to put that motion without further debate. To those who say that it cannot be done on a point of order, I say it can only be done on a point of order.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, what happened is that the Chair recognized the Minister of Transport (Mr. Axworthy) under the item Motions. The Minister started to speak under this item. He said: Madam Speaker. Then someone on the other side, and this is the sequence of events, asked to be recognized on a point of order. The Chair had no choice but to recognize the Hon. Member to find out what he wanted, but you then realized that he was proposing a motion to give the floor to another Member, which is out of order, because the Minister of Transport had started to speak. It was therefore normal for the Chair to recognize the Member for Vegreville (Mr. Mazankowski), but the Chair was correct in not putting the motion, because the Minister of Transport had started to speak, and considering the nature of the motion, it was out of order.

[*English*]

Mr. Deans: Madam Speaker, I have been watching the proceedings very carefully. I distinctly heard the Hon. Member for Vegreville shout, "Point of order" as the Minister was rising.

Madam Speaker: I think Hon. Members will recognize that the important point is whether the Hon. Minister was in possession of the floor. The indication that he would be in possession of the floor, as I stated earlier, was whether he had uttered the words, Madam Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: In these particular circumstances it is obvious that when a Member is in possession of the floor he cannot at that time be interrupted on a point of order where a motion is—

An Hon. Member: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: I certainly gave him the floor not knowing what the point of order was.

A point of order whereby a motion is offered that another Hon. Member be now heard, cannot be entertained once another Member legitimately is in possession of the floor.

I could entertain a point of order on something else, but in this particular case I cannot entertain the point of order.

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● (1510)

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER REPORT AND THIRD READING STAGES OF BILL C-155**

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Transport) moved:

That in relation to Bill C-155, an Act to facilitate the transportation, shipping and handling of western grain, and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof, two sitting days shall be allotted to the consideration of the report stage and one day shall be allotted to the third reading of the Bill; and

That, 15 minutes before the expiry of the time provided by Government business on those days, any proceedings before the House shall be interrupted, if required, for the purpose of this order and, in turn, every question then necessary in order to dispose of the stage of the Bill then under consideration shall be put forthwith and successively without further debate or amendment.

He said: Madam Speaker—

Some Hon. Members: Shame!

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Axworthy: Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Hon. Members for their gracious welcome to this motion.

Some Hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Axworthy: The fact of the matter is that we have now been examining the matter of the Crow rate for over two and one half years.

Mr. Smith: Right on.

Mr. Axworthy: This Parliament has been seized of the matter since last spring. On second reading, over 97 speakers had the opportunity to express their point of view.

Mr. Taylor: We do not want to hear the snake from Winnipeg.

Mr. Axworthy: We then had three solid months of committee hearings at which time over 200 representations were heard. At that point in time, Madam Speaker, the Government allowed an additional two weeks beyond the allotted time in which that committee could go through every single amend-