

*Transport and Communications*

a prima facie case of privilege which indicates an attempt was made to do this. This question will come up in the very near future.

The third approach to stymie the whole effort of the committee system would be to rely on a point of order in the house in the hope the Speaker would go along with it, thereby preventing the committee from making its report. The government does not allow its members to go along with legislative amendments or to accept the committee report in the house. If the report does get to the house, they hope to prevent its acceptance on a point of order.

The fourth approach, Mr. Speaker, would be to ask the house to return the report to committee for revision. The fifth approach would be to completely nullify the effect of the recommendations. This is what we have today.

The opposition house leader and the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), both indicated the effect of this particular amendment proposed by the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce (Mr. Allmand). The obvious way to have handled it would have been to allow the recommendation of the committee to be placed before the house. This is what should have been done. The house did not have to accept the recommendation, but an opportunity should have been given to present this recommendation and request concurrence in the report. This procedure would allow the house to make its decision.

When looking across the chamber this evening, I am led to wonder how many members would vote in the event they were forced to vote on this issue. There were roughly 20 members of the committee present the evening the report was recommended to parliament. They all voted in favour, with the exception of two, who abstained.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** Order, please. I want to remind the hon. member that he must deal with the amendment before us and not reflect on a vote in committee or on the procedural aspect of the problem settled earlier today.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** Mr. Speaker, I beg your indulgence to hear what I have to say because, as members of the committee, we are in an awkward position. We have 20 members of our committee present this evening and this house is voting non-confidence in

[Mr. Lundrigan.]

our committee. This is perhaps the most important point.

I was a member of the committee at the time. I am still on the committee. We, on the committee, have no choice but to resign if this house sends back this report suggesting an amendment which would nullify the effect of our report with respect to the particular transportation problem. The house is also asking for a vote of non-confidence in the chairman of the committee. This chairman, who has been a member of this house for 20 years, has been embarrassed to the point where he is ready to resign. The hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce must be ashamed to sit here this evening after having made the observations he did about his own committee chairman.

**Mr. Allmand:** On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. At no time when I spoke this afternoon did I refer to the chairman of the committee.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** I will not refer to the hon. member by name. The hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce threw his boomerang.

We are embarrassed as members of this committee. We feel we have no alternative but to resign. The house leader is asking for a vote of non-confidence. His cohort, whom he coached so well, is asking for a vote of non-confidence in our committee chairman. I hope members opposite will not tolerate this kind of aggression, subjugation, and bally-ragging by the house leader. We are being intimidated because we have made a recommendation. I do not understand the sign language by the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, but I can suggest what it means.

We contend, as a committee, we can make a recommendation on anything connected with the government of this country. This is the supreme government of Canada in this chamber. Perhaps only a few members have indicated a lack of confidence in the Committee. I believe the people of Canada are generally correct when electing members of parliament. I hope they have not made too many mistakes.

**An hon. Member:** They made one we know of!

**Mr. Lundrigan:** There will be a few tears shed in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce and the constituencies of other hon. members who have made so many observations. I will not say anything more than this. Hon. members can do exactly what they please in governing this