

*Water Resources Programs*

but committee chairmen, vice-chairmen and representatives of committees. I think there has to be a very strict limit on questions that may be asked chairmen of committees. I suggest to the hon. member that the question as asked goes beyond these terms, and I have to rule that the question is not acceptable in those terms.

**Mr. Nowlan:** On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I quite agree that at times I have some most liberal traits, but as a member of the House I have not yet seen such a liberal emancipation as a chairman or a vice-chairman of a committee making proposals that run counter to government policy, as did the hon. member for Etobicoke.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The point made by the hon. member may be a very interesting one, but again it is a point for debate. I have made my ruling and I have to call Orders of the Day.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS****WATER RESOURCES****PROVISION FOR MANAGEMENT INCLUDING RESEARCH AND PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS**

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-144, to provide for the management of the water resources of Canada including research and the planning and implementation of programs relating to the conservation, development and utilization of water resources, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Hon. members who have studied the Order Paper have had an opportunity to consider, I am sure, the numerous and very interesting amendments proposed therein to the House under the terms of Standing Order 75(5). I have spent quite a bit of time studying the proposed motions and have sought the advice of the Clerk at the table, and I have to indicate to hon. members at this time that I have serious reservations about some of these proposed amendments—procedural reservations, of course.

If I might deal with the amendments in a general way, I suggest that motions Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 are perhaps substantive proposals which might very well go beyond the scope of

the interpretation clauses of the bill. I am not going to go into the details of my submissions at this time, because it may well be that hon. members would like to give their views of these several motions from a procedural point of view.

Motion No. 5 is in the same class as Motions Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, and I have the same reservation to make with regard to it.

Motions Nos. 6 and 7 would appear to be in order. Unless hon. members have objections to them, I suggest they ought to be submitted to the House for consideration.

Motions Nos. 8 and 9 appear to be on the same question, and I might suggest here for the consideration of hon. members that they be combined for purposes of debate, but that the question be put on motion No. 9 and the vote be considered as a vote on motion No. 8.

Motions Nos. 10, 12 and 13 bear in the financial provisions of the bill, and I would like to suggest that these motions be combined for purposes of debate, with the House taking one single vote thereon.

Motion No. 11 might be considered and disposed of separately. As I have suggested, motions 12 and 13 are to be combined with motion 10.

I should like to suggest to hon. members that motions Nos. 14 and 15 be considered and disposed of separately.

Motion No. 16 raises very serious procedural difficulties. I am not prepared to rule on the acceptability of the motion, but in due course I might hear argument on it, and perhaps it might be allowed to stand for the time being. When the motion is reached, or when ever hon. members may wish to do so, we might hear argument on whether proposed motion No. 16 should be accepted from the procedural standpoint and put to the House.

Motions Nos. 17 and 18 might be combined for purposes of debate and the questions put separately.

Motion No. 19 would then also be considered separately.

Since motions Nos. 20, 21, 22 and 23 relate to the offence section of the bill, it is suggested that these amendments be combined for purposes of debate; that the question on motions Nos. 20, 21 and 22 be put on one division, if necessary; and that motion No. 23 be disposed of separately.

Motions Nos. 24 and 25 should be considered and disposed of separately.