

No. 200

# JOURNALS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

### OF CANADA

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1971

2.00 o'clock p.m.

#### PRAYERS

##### RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday when the honourable Member for Battle River (Mr. Downey) proposed a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43 the Chair declined to put the motion as proposed and undertook to study the circumstances and make a ruling. After careful consideration it seems to me that very little can be added to my comments as recorded at pages 9073 and 9074 of yesterday's debates.

I suggest to the House that the purpose of Standing Order 43 was never intended to permit an honourable Member to launch a unilateral debate. It is my view that it is not in accord with the practices and proprieties of this House to use a Standing Order for such purposes when in effect it is intended only to suspend the notice requirement for a motion.

It is my judgment that a Member, when proposing a motion under Standing Order 43, should restrict his comments to the necessity or desirability of suspending the notice provision for a motion. It seems to me that any enlargement of that prior condition would end inevitably in great difficulty as the same Standing Order could be used from both sides of the House for the purpose of questioning the conduct of any or every Member of this House.

As honourable Members know, the House has developed well established and recognized procedures for the purpose of discussing the conduct of Ministers and of Members of the House, and it is a prime duty of the Chair to safeguard the interests of all honourable Members.

Under the circumstances I cannot ask the House whether the honourable Member for Battle River has the unanimous consent of the House to propose the motion to which he alluded yesterday.

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Mr. Benson, a Member of the Queen's Privy Council, laid upon the Table,—Copies of Amendments to Part I, II, and III of Bill C-259, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act and to make certain provisions and alterations in the statute law related to or consequential upon the amendments to that Act. (English and French).—Sessional Paper No. 283-7/39A.

By unanimous consent, it was ordered,—That the said Amendments be printed as an Appendix to this day's *Votes and Proceedings*.

Bill C-259, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act and to make certain provisions and alterations in the statute