

Members' Salaries

liamentary secretary has described. If the Chair were disposed to split the amendment of the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge (Mr. Saltzman), it would certainly have to be very sympathetic to the same kind of argument on the amendment standing in the name of the hon. President of the Privy Council (Mr. Sharp). For the moment, it would not be the intention of the Chair to do that. If discussion on that particular amendment develops in a way that might reopen that point of procedure when we are on a particular motion, the matter can be considered further. On the basis of the discussion to this point, however, I think we ought to go ahead with discussion on the amendments.

Again I say that if the Deputy Speaker or one of the Assistant Deputy Speakers is in the chair for discussion upon motion No. 2 and it appears that further consideration might be given to that point of order, there is no reason why it cannot be raised and discussed at that time.

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. For obvious reasons, I think it best that I be replaced promptly before discussion on this motion begins.

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka) moved:

Motion No. 1.

That Bill C-44, an act to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act, the Salaries Act and the Parliamentary Secretaries Act, be amended in clause 1 by deleting lines 12 to 14 inclusive at page 1 and by substituting the following therefor:

"(b) to the Speaker of the House of Commons, the sum of twenty thousand dollars per annum; and".

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Darling: Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to see such unanimity. I brought forward this motion in the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, where it was defeated. With all due deference to the 29 cabinet ministers, I feel that the Speaker of the House of Commons, who is the fifth ranking person in Canada after the Governor General, the Chief Justice, the Prime Minister and the Speaker of the Senate, should be paid at the same rate as cabinet ministers. I am delighted to know there will be unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, although I am a fairly well known opponent of this bill as a whole, I rise to support the amendment that has just been presented.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I shall be voting against the bill as a whole if and when we reach that stage, but in the meantime when we are discussing individual salaries I agree with the mover of the motion that the Speaker of this House ought to receive a salary equal to that paid to members of cabinet.

I also congratulate the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling) on being in the unusual position of being able to move a motion that seems to involve an increase in expenditure and yet being in order. That comes

[Mr. Speaker.]

about because when Bill C-44 was first brought down last December, it included a provision for the salary of the Speaker of the House of Commons to be \$20,000 per year and therefore the Governor General's recommendation supported that proposition. The salary was reduced to \$16,000 in the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, but because the original Governor General's recommendation still stands the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka is in order.

I believe he is expressing the view of the House that if any increases are going to take place, the Speaker ought to receive the same salary as members of cabinet.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this amendment. When the recommendations were made for the salaries of ministers, the Speaker and other functionaries, it was decided that the government should not depart from the general principle proposed in the Beaupré commission report. I certainly believe, as do the other members who have spoken, that the Speaker should receive the same salary as members of the cabinet even though the Beaupré commission found otherwise.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I simply rise to say I concur.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Motion No. 1 (Mr. Darling) agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The House will now proceed to the consideration of motions Nos. 2, 3 and 4.

Mr. Max Saltzman (Waterloo-Cambridge) moved:

Motion No. 2.

That Bill C-44 an act to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act, the Salaries Act and the Parliamentary Secretaries Act, be amended (a) in subclause (1) of clause 2 by deleting from lines 5 and 6 at page 2 the words "July 8, 1974 and ending December 31, 1975" and by substituting therefor the words "July 1, 1975" (b) by deleting subclause (2) of clause 2, being lines 11 to 49 at page 2 and lines 1 to 20 at page 3 of the bill.

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka) moved:

Motion No. 3.

That Bill C-44, an act to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act, the Salaries Act and the Parliamentary Secretaries Act, be amended by deleting lines 4 to 10 inclusive in subclause 2(1) at page 2 and by substituting the following therefor:

"34. (1) For the portion of the said Parliament commencing January 1st, 1975 and ending December 31, 1975, there shall be paid to every member of the Senate and the House of Commons a sessional allowance at the rate of twenty-two thousand, five hundred dollars per annum."

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council) moved:

Motion No. 4.

That Bill C-44, an act to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act, the Salaries Act and the Parliamentary Secretaries Act, be amend-