

Water Resources Programs

name of the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants (Mr. McCleave), and if a recorded division is required on that it will also be deferred. In other words, if a recorded division is required on both there is provision for that, but both recorded divisions will be deferred at this point.

The question is on Motion No. (6) (Mr. Harding). All those in favour of the Motion will please say yea?

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay?

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five members having risen:

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 75(11) the recorded division on the proposed motion stands deferred.

The question is on Motion No. 25 (Mr. McCleave). All those in favour of the motion will please say yea?

Mr. McCleave: Mr. Speaker, may I raise a point of order? Am I debarred from speaking on my own motion because of the grouping together of the two? Is this the understanding of the Chair because, if it is, I would really like to make a point of order about it?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Certainly, the understanding of the Chair was, and I can only assume it was the understanding of the House also, that for the purposes of debate both motions were put. In fact, both motions were put. Therefore, the debate we have just had was a debate on both motions. Now, the questions are being put separately for the purposes of recorded divisions if they are required. My interpretation of the situation is that we have concluded the debate on these two motions. That is certainly my understanding.

Mr. McCleave: Then, Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I do have to accept your ruling in that regard and I am not going to challenge it, but this is not the understanding with which I entered into the debate. I thought the rather special points and slightly different points I had in my motion, as compared with what was proposed by the hon. member who led off on the previous motion, would be significant enough that I would be entitled to deal with them particularly at the time that my own motion was called.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

I realize that a good number of people have thought differently including, I think, the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Aiken). I do not pursue it now, Mr. Speaker, except to say that perhaps I find myself the unique prisoner of a special situation that should be more carefully considered when such groupings come up again. In other words, I yield to the will of yourself and of the House.

Mr. Aiken: Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order, I would not pursue the matter except that before you put the question the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants rose to ask if he would have the opportunity to speak to his own motion, and apparently receiving that assurance he resumed his seat again. I think there has been something of a misunderstanding. I think that if he does want to speak on this motion, he should be permitted to do so now.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: If there has been a misunderstanding I am sorry. There was certainly no misunderstanding in my mind regarding the way we were proceeding. However, there is an option available to the House at this point. If the House would like to allow the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants to speak by unanimous consent on this particular motion, there is certainly nothing to preclude that. At least in my own mind, I was fairly clear on what we were doing, and I was fairly sure it was also clear to hon. members that the debate was concurrent on both motions but that the questions would be put separately. Does the House want me to put the motion, or to allow the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants to speak? I am not trying to be arbitrary; I am trying to be as accommodating as possible.

Mr. Forest: May I make the suggestion that we do not see the clock and permit the hon. member to make his remarks?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. McCleave: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the members of the House for granting me permission. I hope the misunderstanding to which I was subject would—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member but I see the hon. member for Richmond rising. Is it on a question of order?