

to decide between his contention and the contention put forward by the honourable Member for Simcoe East. I do not think the Chair should be placed in that position. I will rule strictly on the point of order, not on the substance of the amendment. For this reason I believe I should accept the amendment.

I would stress again a point which I made before, namely that if there is any type of amendment on which it is extremely difficult to make a ruling it is these reasoned amendments, which are becoming more and more popular in the House and which create constant difficulties for the Chair.

I would suggest to the Minister and to the honourable Members that when there is at least a reasonable doubt in my mind—I am not suggesting that the argument of the Minister is totally wrong; I believe he made a very logical and intelligent argument—in such circumstances I should give the honourable Member who proposes the amendment the benefit of that doubt. Therefore, with respect to honourable Members, and particularly to the Minister who made such a strong argument in support of his point of view, I will accept the amendment and say that it is receivable at this time.

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By unanimous consent, at 6.00 o'clock p.m. the sitting was suspended until 8.00 o'clock p.m. this day.

Debate was resumed on the motion of Mr. MacEachen, seconded by Mr. Pickersgill,—That Bill C-227, An Act to authorize the payment of contributions by Canada towards the cost of insured medical care services incurred by provinces pursuant to provincial medical care insurance plans, be now read a second time.

And on the proposed amendment thereto of Mr. Rynard, seconded by Mr. Dinsdale,—That all the words after “That” be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

“this House, while of the opinion that provision should be made for medical services to be available to all Canadians at an adequate level on a pre-paid basis, is nevertheless of the further opinion that no legislation for the provision of insured medical care services in Canada will be satisfactory unless it:

(a) secures co-operation of the governments of the provinces of Canada;

(b) recognizes the principle of voluntary choice by the individual;

(c) makes adequate prior provision for sufficient medical research, the training of adequate numbers of doctors and other medical personnel; and

(d) immediately provides for those persons who are unable, for financial reasons, to provide medical services for themselves.”

And debate continuing;

By unanimous consent, the House reverted to “Motions”.

On motion of Mr. Pilon, seconded by Mr. McNulty, it was ordered,—That the name of Mr. MacLean (Queens) be substituted for that of Mr. Chatterton on the Special Committee on Drug Costs and Prices.