

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Things are going very smoothly and we are making progress on this Bill. There may be others who might want to speak. We are now moving into Private Members' Hour. I wonder if it might not be in the best interests of us all just to set this matter aside until we resume tomorrow and pick up where we left off. I am afraid that if we start moving into Private Members' Hour there may be others who want to speak. Before we know it, we will begin to set some kind of precedent, which I do not think is in the best interests of the procedures of the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being 5.05 p.m., the House will now proceed to the consideration for a full hour of Private Members' Business as listed on today's Order Paper.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS--MOTIONS

[Translation]

THE SENATE

SUGGESTED EQUAL PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL ELECTED REPRESENTATION

The House resumed from Tuesday, May 5, consideration of the motion of Mr. Taylor:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider the advisability of introducing the appropriate measures to abolish the Senate and create a new Senate composed of Senators elected by the people of Canada on the basis of equal representation for each province and territory, and to initiate discussions to that end with provincial and territorial governments at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier).

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker—

[English]

Mr. Stackhouse: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I move:

That the House now hear from the Hon. Member for Parry Sound—Muskoka.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I believe that the motion put forward by my hon. friend is out of order, since the Hon. Member from the Liberal Party had been recognized in his place and had already begun to make his remarks. I believe that a point of order suggesting that another Hon. Member be now heard is in fact out of order.

[Translation]

Mr. Prud'homme: On the same point of order, Mr. Speaker. To facilitate the business of the House and notwithstanding the high esteem I have for the Hon. Member for Parry Sound—Muskoka (Mr. Darling), an outstanding Member of the Committee on External Affairs for a good many years, I regret to say that the motion presented is certainly out of order because the Hon. Member, as pointed out by the spokesman

for the third Party in the House, did say he had begun his remarks. You had recognized him and he was delivering his speech.

[English]

I say, with great respect to my hon. friend who wants to participate, that he will have to wait and speak after the Hon. Member whom the Chair has recognized has spoken.

Mr. Clinch: On a point of order—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is no need for me to hear the Hon. Member for Gloucester (Mr. Clinch) on a point of order.

I recognized the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier), yet at the same time the Hon. Member for Scarborough West (Mr. Stackhouse) was on his feet. I recognized that Hon. Member on a point of order. Therefore I find the motion in order. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed to the motion will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the yeas have it. I declare the motion carried, on division.

Motion (Mr. Stackhouse) agreed to.

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound—Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, in order to refresh the memory of Hon. Members in the House, Motion No. 18 states:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider the advisability of introducing the appropriate measures to abolish the Senate and create a new Senate composed of Senators elected by the people of Canada on the basis of equal representation for each province and territory, and to initiate discussions to that end with provincial and territorial governments at the earliest opportunity.

Coming from the Province of Ontario as I do, which has slightly over nine million people and well over one-third of the entire population of Canada, I believe that I can hardly be criticized too much for stating that the idea of equal representation from each of the provinces and the territories seemed to me to be absolutely ludicrous. When I think of the Province of Prince Edward Island, which in size is not as big as my own riding of Parry Sound—Muskoka, although I will admit that it has a few more people in it, I am quite sure that the people will not accept this motion in its original form. I assume that the great Province of Quebec, whose population is over six million,