

Point of Order—Mr. W. Baker

However, Madam Speaker, I think that when a member rises to take part in a point of order debate, he should not twist the rules or even their wording, as did the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton, and he should not try to put the Chair in an impossible position. The hon. member for Nepean-Carleton, and he would like both the video tape and the blues checked, read the standing order as though it said "immediately before the orders of the day are called".

That is not what Standing Order 33 says. It says:

Immediately before the order of the day for resuming an adjourned debate is called—

Madam Speaker, you did not call an order of the day, but "orders of the day".

Mr. Nielsen: Come on!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Knowles: Just a minute. The President of the Privy Council got up before anyone called order No. 18 or before anything has been called.

Mr. Clark: There goes your reputation, Stanley.

Mr. Nielsen: That completes the process.

Mr. Knowles: It is clear, as long as the motion is put before the order of the day for resuming an adjourned debate, that it is in order. I resent the bringing in of the motion and I am sorry that we are having this kind of a day, but I do not think that the Speaker should be put in the impossible position which has been created by the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton misquoting the rule.

Mr. McCain: Madam Speaker, in support of the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker) and because of my position as the one who would rise next to participate in the debate, I was watching every muscle and movement of the gentleman who would present that motion. Because if he did not make that move and put the motion, it was then my turn to speak. I was rising in my seat to speak on orders of the day before he twitched a muscle in his seat.

Madam Speaker: I thank hon. members for their interventions. I thank the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker) when he says that he has a lot of respect for this House and particularly for the Chair. I, too, have a lot of respect for what the hon. members have to say. One can imagine that I had tried to foresee any points of procedure that might be brought up at this particular time. Therefore, I was also watching every possible muscle of every possible member in this House.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: I called the orders of the day. The order of the day to be discussed today had not yet been chosen, precisely because the Clerk had not risen to announce that particular order of the day. Before that happened, the minis-

ter—and I was watching very closely—chose to propose his motion.

Because I have such respect for what the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton has to say, I will interrupt Proceedings for a few minutes in order to consult with the Table to make sure that my decision today will be fair and, particularly, according to our rules.

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Madam Speaker, I think that is quite appropriate. I hope you understand, and I want you to understand, that that question is advanced—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Rae: You're oozing, Walter.

Madam Speaker: Order, please. It is very difficult for the Chair to deal with difficult points of procedure, especially if there is so much noise in the House that the Chair cannot hear.

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Madam Speaker, I just want to say that I appreciate the consideration that you are giving to the point of order.

[Editor's Note: At this point the sitting was suspended for approximately two minutes.]

Madam Speaker: Order, please. Members will realize that there are several orders of the day and that is why I call "orders of the day". I cannot know which order of the day will be called until the Clerk announces that order of the day. Therefore, I cannot recognize a speaker to speak on that order of the day before it is announced.

What happened is that the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Pinard) got up before the "order" of the day, not the "orders" of the day, was announced. Therefore, he was acting quite in conformity with Standing Order 33, which reads:

Immediately before the order of the day—

Therefore, the minister is quite in order and his motion must be put to the House.

[Translation]

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council) moved:

That debate on the motion in the name of the Minister of Justice (government orders, government business, No. 18) regarding a special joint committee to consider a proposed resolution to address Her Majesty the Queen respecting the Constitution of Canada, and any amendment or subamendment thereto, shall not be further adjourned.

Madam Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion? All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Madam Speaker: All those against the motion will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Madam Speaker: In my opinion, the yeas have it.