

*Pipe Lines Act*

field (Mr. Sinnott) is not here or, shall I say, because the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) is not here. It happens to be the minister's amendment for a six months' hoist that is now before the house.

**Mr. Green:** On the point of order, I submit that as the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) moved the six months' hoist this bill should be given consideration by Your Honour. That fact should be in favour of permitting me to go ahead with my speech. Otherwise the result will be that the Minister of Trade and Commerce has been able to kill this bill without having his motion debated. As a matter of fact, he came into the chamber and moved the amendment and then did not offer any argument in support of it.

If Your Honour gives a ruling that we cannot go on now unless the hon. member for Springfield (Mr. Sinnott) is here, then all that needs to be done by the Minister of Trade and Commerce is to suggest to the hon. member for Springfield that he stay away and the Minister of Trade and Commerce will have achieved his desire for killing the bill without having given us an opportunity to discuss his amendment. I submit that that is beyond all reason.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have never known of a private bill or of a public bill which has been introduced by a private member being proceeded with in his absence without his consent.

**Mr. Green:** We did that on the pipe lines bills.

**Mr. Speaker:** Presumably with the consent of the hon. member who introduced the bill. At times bills have been proceeded with when the hon. members who introduced them were not in the chamber, but in such instances some member has stated that he has the approval of the member who introduced the bill to proceed with it. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) has referred to the speech from the throne, but it is assumed in that debate that the mover and the seconder approve of the debate continuing. If for any reason that debate were not to be continued I would think that arrangements would be made and that the house would be informed accordingly.

I do not think I should depart at this time from practice and allow the debate on this bill to continue in the absence of the hon. member who introduced it, and of the minister who moved an amendment. I therefore rule that under our practice an order for resuming the adjourned debate on the second reading of a private member's bill is proceeded with only at the instance of

[Mr. Knowles.]

the sponsor of the bill or of a member authorized to act on the sponsor's behalf. Otherwise the order is allowed to stand until the next sitting day. This would appear to be what is contemplated by standing order 18 which reads as follows:

(1) Questions put by members and notices of motions, not taken up when called may (upon the request of the government) be allowed to stand and retain their precedence; otherwise they will disappear from the order paper. They may, however, be renewed.

(2) Orders not proceeded with when called, upon the like request, may be allowed to stand retaining their precedence; otherwise they shall be dropped and be placed on the order paper for the next sitting after those of the same class at a similar stage.

Under this order a member of the government who has introduced a bill can, upon request, have it stand. A private member who has introduced a bill should be accorded, and is under our practice accorded, an equal right. It is also our practice to allow a bill to stand when the member who has sponsored it is not present and has not authorized another member to act on his behalf. In other words, the absent member is deemed to have requested that the bill stand until the next sitting day.

**Mr. Green:** Will the same ruling apply every time private bills come up?

**Mr. Speaker:** If the member sponsoring it is not here or if someone is not authorized to speak on his behalf. Another bill was called tonight and it stood because the hon. member who had introduced it was not here. This bill is in the same position as the one introduced, I think, by the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Argue).

**Mr. Knowles:** If any hon. member wishes to debate that bill he can go ahead.

**An hon. Member:** Oh, no.

**Mr. Knowles:** I say that on behalf of the hon. member for Assiniboia.

**Mr. McIvor:** I should like to say a word on behalf of the hon. member who is not present.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have given my ruling and it is not debatable. The business under the heading of private and public bills having been concluded, the house will resume the business under consideration at six o'clock.

Order stands.

### SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Dion in the chair.

#### DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT

##### National film board—

401. Administration, production and distribution of films and other visual materials, including authority