June 12, 1981

10547

the previous rulings of the Chair mentioned earlier, which stated that legislation and legislative changes in substance are not intended to be part of supply.

However, two of the items, External Affairs votes L50 and L55, have previous statutory authority, albeit previous Appropriation Acts, and thus are in order. With respect to the three other votes, that is, External Affairs votes L45 and L60 and Finance vote L15, they have no statutory foundation and are legislative items. Again, following the principles enunciated in previous rulings of the Chair, votes L45 and L60 of External Affairs and vote L15, Finance, must be ruled out of order.

That these items are really legislative items which deal with matters of substance is confirmed in the Blue Book. There is shown, on the same page which contains these items, an amount to be paid as a statutory item, and the statute referred to is the very programs for which approval is being sought. In other words, if vote L60, which includes the initial subscription for shares in a bank, were to be passed this year, next year the second instalment would be shown as a statutory matter, and the program consisting of the remaining instalments for shares in the international bank would be shown as a votable item.

As I said earlier, the programs described by External Affairs votes L50 and L55 are authorized by previous Appropriation Acts, and therefore the moneys sought for the instalment to be paid are in order.

I notice that on March 25 of this year, when the House dealt with a point of order in respect of similar items by the hon. member, I ended my ruling on the note that they should be raised at some future date, and I would have to be convinced that these similar matters are not really legislative items that should be introduced by separate statute. It seems that that time has come, and I am not convinced. It is certainly apparent to me that if complicated votes such as these and, for that matter, if all votes included a reference to the statutory authority on which they are based, it would be easier to determine whether or not they were in order.

While the significance of such a ruling is not lost, as was said on March 22, 1977, the function of the Chair is to ensure that what Parliament attempts to do is procedurally correct. Furthermore, the Chair is comforted by the fact that the President of the Treasury Board said on June 1 last, in reply to the point of order at issue here, that legislation will be introduced with respect to these programs, referring to the programs for insulation and conversion from oil to gas.

While the hon. member for Calgary Centre may be correct in his suspicion that there are other votes in the estimates which are out of order, it is not the role of the Speaker to act on her own initiative in such procedural questions.

Finally, while in the past, including the Chair's ruling earlier this year, time constraints may have dictated a certain course of action, this is not the case here. The hon. member for Calgary Centre raised his point well in time, and long before the day when the House will actually deal with their adoption in the bill based thereon.

Privilege-Mr. Flis

Accordingly, I must now find that Agriculture vote 30, Public Works vote L70, Supply and Services vote 5, Transport vote 110, Energy, Mines and Resources votes 35, 40 and 45, External Affairs votes L45 and L60 and Finance vote L15, as contained in the main estimates 1981-82, are not properly before the House, and they are thereby ordered to be deleted therefrom.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

136-10-24

PETITION

MR. DARLING-REINSTATEMENT OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Madam Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has laid upon the table the fifty-first report of the Clerk of Petitions stating that he has examined the petition presented by the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling) and finds that it meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

* * *

PRIVILEGE

MR. FLIS—THE PHILIPPINES—RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL DAY

Mr. Jesse P. Flis (Parkdale-High Park): Madam Speaker, my question of privilege is twofold. For two days now, I have been trying to obtain the floor to put a motion recognizing the valuable contribution that the Philippino people have made to the growth of Canada; because as the House knows, today, June 12, marks the national day of the Philippinos.

Madam Speaker: Order. The hon. member sent me an advance copy of the motion which he wanted to put under Standing Order 43 today. He was not obliged to send me a copy of his motion, but since he did, I read it. The hon. member knows, of course, that Standing Order 43 deals with matters of urgent and pressing necessity. Matters must be urgent and pressing to be put in the House. I would not have been able to put it to the House because it is not a legitimate type of motion under Standing Order 43. Therefore, knowing what his motion was about, I did not recognize him.

I do have to tell the hon. member that he has been in the habit of putting several motions of this nature to the House on the occasion of national days. While that is extremely commendable and there are a lot of wonderful things we would like to do in the House, our rules are set in order to ensure that only matters which should, in fact, be dealt with in the House are dealt with, and again, at certain times.

Therefore, I would ask the hon. member, indeed all hon. members—because the hon. member for Parkdale-High Park (Mr. Flis) is not the only one who uses Standing Order 43 to congratulate someone—to co-operate with the Chair and not attempt to put to the House under Standing Order 43 motions to congratulate certain people.