

The sponsor of the bill says no. The honourable Member for Winnipeg North Centre raises the matter as a point of order. After consultation with the Clerk at the Table I must come to the conclusion that, under our practice or under our rules it has never been contemplated that we should have to wait for the evidence to be printed before we take up second reading, study in Committee of the Whole or third reading of a bill. I am satisfied that citation 539 of Beauchesne's third edition states the position clearly, namely that the minutes of evidence of a standing committee are printed for their own use and once they are reported, they become a permanent record of the House of the proceedings of that committee. But if we were to state that they are required for the study of any of the stages of a bill, I would say that we would in fact be placing in our book a new rule to the effect that the bill had better not be reported before the evidence is ready and we would have the result as I outlined a few minutes ago, namely that in certain cases the committee would not report the bill because the evidence could not be printed for three or four months.

The point is, are we going to be put in the position in the future, through a ruling of the Chair, that the printed minutes and evidence of the committee, for the use of Parliament as part of the records, is to be available before a bill is proceeded with in the House, when under the rules a bill is put on the Order Paper, has been called and read by the Deputy Clerk, the particular bill must be either proceeded with or must be withdrawn or discharged. I must rule against the point raised by the honourable Member.

From this Ruling, Mr. Knowles appealed to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is on an appeal from the Speaker's Ruling. The order for the House in Committee on Bill No. 15 (Letter I of the Senate), intituled: "An Act respecting Trans Mountain Oil Pipe Line Company" (Without Amendment) being read, the honourable Member for Winnipeg North Centre, Mr. Knowles, raised a point of order to the effect that the order for the consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill, An Act respecting Trans Mountain Oil Pipe Line Company, should stand until the printed evidence of the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines with respect to the consideration therein of the said bill has been distributed to Members of the House.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the point of order was not well taken since the evidence of a committee is printed for the use of the committee as stated in citation 539 of Beauchesne's third edition and that the words in the report of the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines which appear at page 159 of *Votes and Proceedings*—"for the use of the Committee and of Parliament"—must necessarily mean that the printed evidence will be ultimately for the use of Parliament as part of the permanent records of Parliament and cannot in any way preclude and stop the consideration of an order appointed such as that which has been read this day, because immediately it would place the consideration of such orders at the mercy of the printing in both languages of the various reports coming from the standing committees which, as it is well known, sometimes may take from one to five months before they are made available.

And the question being put by Mr. Speaker: