

*Business of the House*

deadline, I heartily concur in the amendment. I do so because, as I have said previously in the discussion, there is a principle at stake. The only opportunity the minority has to indicate its wishes, intentions and desires is through the right of parliamentary discussion. I think the only solution for the present situation is to accept the amendment submitted by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre. Therefore I intend to vote for the amendment in the hope of thus being able to register a protest against the tactics that have been pursued in the house. This is the first time I have experienced them, but I understand they have been pursued on other occasions. In thus registering my protest I trust it will end once and for all the practice of railroading legislation, the practice of steamrollering legislation, and will provide for the logical and reasonable discussion required on the very important matters still remaining on the agenda.

**Mr. Lesage:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to draw your attention to citation 405 in Beauchesne's second edition, which reads as follows:

The Speaker may refuse to propose an amendment which is in his opinion frivolous.

The amendment proposed by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre—

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask what the hon. member is—

**Some hon. Members:** He is on a point of order.

**Mr. Lesage:** The amendment proposed by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre was presented at ten minutes past nine. The normal closing hour is ten o'clock. After the childish delaying tactics that have been used by the opposition all day it is obvious that the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre not only is frivolous but has as its only aim to have us waste our time and the money of the people of Canada.

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker, this is a very late hour in the day for the hon. member to have discovered that the people of Canada are losing money because of the action of this government and those who support it. I would point out that we did not introduce the original motion.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I would ask the hon. member to speak on the point of order.

**Mr. Drew:** I am speaking to the point raised by the member who has just sat down. That hon. member raised a question to which Your Honour took no exception, that you should bear in mind that public money was being wasted. I propose to direct my attention

[Mr Dinsdale.]

to that remark for a few minutes. You have not ruled him out of order so I submit that that stands as a matter before the house and I propose to deal with it.

**Mr. Lesage:** On a question of privilege, I withdraw my remark that the opposition has been wasting the money of the public.

**Mr. Drew:** I am speaking on the point of order. I have this much respect for the views of the hon. member; I assumed that he was being serious. Perhaps I was wrong, but I assumed he was being serious and, therefore, that when he spoke of money that had been wasted by the discussion here he was placing that before you in support of his contention that this motion was frivolous. Otherwise it was a most frivolous comment and one that was entirely inexcusable under the circumstances.

The hon. member has raised the question of the waste of public money. May I remind you that the motion that caused this debate was introduced not by us but by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre. It was received with immediate and solid acclaim by the members of the Liberal party. In spite of the opportunities which have been presented to proceed with the business of the house—

**Mr. McIlraith:** Let us vote.

**Mr. Drew:** I wish you would hear what I am saying, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I hear you very well.

**Mr. Drew:** I do not wish you to be in any difficulty in that respect, and for that reason I shall pause if I feel there may be any difficulty in your hearing. The situation is simply that we urged early in the day that this motion be abandoned so we could get ahead with the business of the house which dealt with the money of the people of Canada—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Drew:**—which dealt with the money and the general interests of the people of this country. Later, so there could be no doubt about our position, we stated clearly that we wished the house to sit until twelve o'clock. Had that proposal been accepted—

**Mr. Garson:** On a point of order, I wonder if the leader of the opposition would inform us whether he is speaking to the point of order or in the debate.

**An hon. Member:** Filibuster.

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker, the minister of make-believe knows—