

Western Grain Transportation Act

have a right to rise on a point of order. Under Citations 233, 237, 239 and 235 of Beauchesne, I am bound to do that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Certainly the Hon. Member has a right and an obligation to raise points of order. That is conceded. The problem the Chair has to recognize is that when many Members are on their feet at one time, all claiming points of order, and another Hon. Member is making a speech wherein the question of relevance has been raised by the Chair, the Chair has to make a decision. In this case the decision was to hear further statements of the Parliamentary Secretary before calling on another Hon. Member on the grounds that the speech of the Parliamentary Secretary was out of order.

The decision in this case was to hear further statements of the Parliamentary Secretary before calling on another Hon. Member on the grounds that the Parliamentary Secretary's speech was out of order. The Chair was in the process of doing that when Hon. Members, a number of them, were on their feet screaming, "Point of order". It is physically impossible for more than one Hon. Member to be recognized at any one moment in time. The Chair could not recognize six Members at once on a point of order.

Mr. Benjamin: Nobody asked you to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There were six Members of the Hon. Member's Party on their feet at once.

Mr. Anguish: There were not.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: They were all screaming "Point of order".

Mr. Anguish: There was one.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am sure that the Hon. Member for The Battlefords-Meadow Lake (Mr. Anguish) will do me the courtesy of checking with the transcript which is provided by *Hansard* for the House and he will recognize the fact after the event. From where the Chair observed the proceedings, there were a number of Members seeking to be recognized on a point of order all at once. It is physically impossible to recognize everybody at once.

The Chair made a decision to attempt to hear further statements from the Parliamentary Secretary before calling relevance again. The Chair had already cautioned the Parliamentary Secretary on a speech that appeared to be irrelevant to the Chair, and I was in the process of making a determination.

Now, if the Hon. Member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom) has anything else to add to the record, the Chair would be pleased to hear him. But there is no dispute about the need for relevance in this House.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Speaker. I would also like to thank him for saying that a Member has an obligation to raise a point of order. I am very glad to hear that. That was what I was trying to do. You allowed me to do that

and I thank you for that. I am glad that no dangerous precedents have been set tonight and I am glad we can get back to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Are Hon. Members about to raise points of order at this moment?

Some Hon. Members: Debate.

Mr. Anguish: Are you a mind reader?

An Hon. Member: Button your lip for once.

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my wife called me this evening and said that she had just seen the Air Farce on television in which they used as their theme the House of Commons debating the Crow rate. She said that they did a very good job and it was exactly what she sees in the House every day. That is what our public thinks of us. That is a very unbiased opinion by my wife.

In any event, I am very glad to rise to speak to these two amendments. The reason for these amendments is the fact that sales and transportation are inextricably linked and therefore it is very important that the Wheat Board have the kind of authority over the movement and placing of cars that it has had in the past and should continue to have. Because it is necessary to protect the block system, it is necessary for the Wheat Board to be able to call out the kind of grain it needs when it is needed. It is very necessary for the Wheat Board to act in a proper way and have the authority to act. Therefore, it is necessary to have these two amendments pass which will make the difference in this Bill.

● (0200)

Besides that, we in this Party want to stop the erosion of the Crow which the Official Opposition and the Government are attempting to bring about, or are in the process of doing. They have not quit attempting to do it. They went through this farce of going out West listening to the people, but made no changes to the Bill. There is change made to the Bill. They added 86 amendments, but the basic Bill did not change. The effect on the farmer is exactly the same as it was when they went out west. We wasted all that time. We wasted time and dollars to find out, and then did nothing. It is what the bureaucracy decided. This is an individual group of bureaucrats who have governed this Government, who have put the words in the mouth of this Government, into the mouth of the Department of Transport, for the last 20 years. They have continued to do it and are still doing it. The bureaucracy decided what it thought was good.

If you had attended the hearings during the summer, Mr. Speaker, you would have seen exactly how much the Government and, to a great extent, the Official Opposition were guided by the officials who are the bureaucracy. They never made a decision on their own. Every decision was a decision of the bureaucrat who was supposed to be an expert, but an expert who had been trained by this particular administration, hopefully, except that none of these people were there then.