

on a number of occasions, that Standing Order 26 specifically states that the statement of the matter referred to in the Standing Order should not be accompanied by argument. The thought behind the new rule is that notice having been given to the Chair, it will be the Speaker's responsibility to consider all aspects of the matter and to give a ruling without presentation of argument either in support of or in opposition to the motion.

This having been said, it is obvious that the general matter referred to in the motions before us is of considerable importance and interest. This is evidenced by the many references made to this by a number of honourable Members during the last few days. Indeed, a few motions have already been proposed under Standing Order 26 which were disallowed by the Chair. My main objection to the previous motions was that the motions were essentially censure motions or non-confidence motions which are not contemplated by the Standing Order. This is the suggestion which I took the opportunity to make yesterday to the honourable Member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams). The motion proposed today refers, on the other hand, to the economic situation of western farmers as it relates to the payment or non-payment of certain sums to the Canadian Wheat Board. The Chair would find it difficult to question in any way the submission contained in the statement in support of the motion. On the strength of these statements and in view of the suggestions made in the course of my ruling of yesterday, I would be inclined to favour the motions and to agree that this is the kind of situation contemplated by Standing Order 26.

I do not overlook the aspect of opportunity of debating at an early date. It may well be that this is the kind of situation which ought to have been debated on a supply motion. However, I have no indication as to when this opportunity might come. In view of these circumstances and having reflected very seriously on the matter, having given, as I say, very serious and the most sympathetic thought to the different aspects of this matter, I have reached the conclusion that honourable Members would want to have an opportunity of considering this for a few hours. I suggest, if honourable Members agree, that there be a debate on this subject later this evening.

Accordingly, leave having been granted to debate the subject-matter;

Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 9 of Standing Order 26, directed that the same stand over until 8.00 o'clock p.m., this day.

The House resumed debate on the motion of Mr. Benson, seconded by Mr. Davis,—That Bill C-259, An Act to amend the Income Tax Act and to make certain provisions and alterations in the statute law related to or consequential upon the amendments to that Act, be now read a second time and referred to a Committee of the Whole.

And on the motion of Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West), seconded by Mr. Ricard, in amendment thereto,—That all the words after "That" be struck out and the following substituted:

"this House deeply concerned with unacceptable levels of inflation, persisting unemployment and stagnant industry and conscious of the necessity for meaningful tax reform declines to give second reading to a bill which does not provide sufficient stimulus to the economy of Canada with appropriate tax cuts and incentives, does not contain adequate tax exemptions and is not calculated to materially improve business and labour conditions in Canada now or in the foreseeable future."

After further debate, the said debate was, on motion of Mr. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Bell, adjourned.

[At 5.00 o'clock p.m., Private Members' Business was called pursuant to Standing Order 15(4)]

(Private Bills)

The Order being read for the second reading and reference to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications of Bill S-16, An Act respecting Mic Mac Oils (1963) Ltd.;

Mr. Goode for Mr. Sulatycky, seconded by Mr. Reid, moved,—That the said bill be now read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

And debate arising thereon;

The hour for Private Members' Business expired.

Pursuant to Standing Order 26, at 8.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Woolliams, seconded by Mr. Mazankowski, moved,—That this House do now adjourn.

After debate thereon, Mr. Speaker declared the motion carried.

Changes in Committee Membership

Notice having been filed with the Clerk of the House pursuant to Standing Order 65(4)(b), membership of Committees was amended as follows:

Messrs. Broadbent, Portelance, Rochon and Béchard for Messrs. Saltsman, Roberts, Leblanc (Laurier) and Lind on the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

Mr. Robinson for Mr. Allmand on the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Horner for Mr. Comeau on the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.