

Mr. Trudeau, a Member of the Queen's Privy Council, laid upon the Table,—Copy of a Statistical Table entitled "Wages, Salaries, and Supplementary Labour Income, and Corporation Profits before Taxes as a proportion of National Income".—Sessional Paper No. 7/18.

Mr. Pepin, a Member of the Queen's Privy Council, laid upon the Table,—Copies of the "Canada Year Book, 1969" (English and French).—Sessional Paper No. 1/321.

Mr. Pepin, laid upon the Table,—Copies of the Official Handbook entitled "Canada 1970" (English and French)—Sessional Paper No. 1/322.

Mr. Orange for Mr. Greene, a Member of the Queen's Privy Council, laid upon the Table,—Copies of a Report of the Atlantic Tidal Power Programming Board, entitled "Feasibility of Tidal Power Development in the Bay of Fundy", dated October 31, 1969. (English and French).—Sessional Paper No. 4/69.

The Order being read for the consideration of the Business of Supply.

RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

MR. SPEAKER: I thank honourable Members for their views. The fact that there is unanimity between those who have participated in the procedural discussion makes it easier for the Chair. In fact, for a moment I wondered whether there was any point in giving a decision but I think it is probably wise to make a ruling based on the advice of honourable Members, who have taken part in the discussions and who have agreed on a conclusion. As honourable Members know, the procedural point was raised last Friday and I indicated then that I had serious misgivings about the procedural aspects of this matter. I have had an opportunity to review it since then and my conclusions coincide with those we have heard during the last few minutes from the honourable Members who have taken part in this discussion. It is hardly necessary to remind honourable Members that paragraph 1 of the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates reads in part as follows: "Delete in vote 17b, on page 2, the paragraph intituled "Grants", and substitute the following therefor:"

The report goes on to rewrite in substantial manner vote 17b of the supplementary estimates (B). It is not necessary, I suggest, to compare in detail the terms of the committee's proposed recommendation with that of the original estimate to establish the fact that a change of substance has been suggested by the committee. In its recommendations, the committee has proposed an alternative to the proposal recommended to the House by His Excellency. No principle is more surely provided for by our constitution and our Standing Orders than that which provides that the Crown alone initiates financial proposals.

In this regard, section (1) of Standing Order 62 reads as follows: "This House shall not adopt or pass any vote, resolution, address or bill for the appropriation of any part of the public revenue, or of any tax or impost, to