

Excise Tax Act

and introduce the same amendment. In my respectful submission this amendment is completely out of order.

Mr. Speaker: Would the hon. member be able to refer me to some authority to support his case, because I consider that different principles apply to debate on second reading than to debate in committee at the resolution stage, and I should be glad to have some authority if the hon. member has any to give.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): If you will give me a moment I think I can find an authority. I quite agree, Mr. Speaker, that the context and scope of order in the debate on second reading are not the same as in the committee of ways and means, but what I have indicated in the third point I submitted to you was that the amendment was ruled out of order in committee on the ground of relevancy, and that ground in my respectful submission to you is equally applicable at this stage as in the committee of ways and means. If it had been on some other ground there might have been reason to say it had no application at this time, but it was on the ground of relevancy that the amendment on that occasion was ruled out of order.

If you are seeking specific citations I shall have to ask you to give me a moment in which to locate them.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps while the hon. member is looking that up I will hear the hon. member for Laurier.

Mr. Chevrier: I have an authority to submit on behalf of the amendment which has been moved by the hon. member for Fort William, but before doing so I should like to remind you respectfully that it has been the practice in this house over the years on second reading to move amendments of this nature that declare in principle against certain aspects of the attitude taken by the government with reference to a matter such as motor cars.

Mr. Speaker: I presume the hon. member will be able to give me some instances of that.

Mr. Chevrier: I will do so at once in order to save the time of the house. I refer Your Honour to Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms, fourth edition, at page 277, citation 382, where it clearly, in my opinion, sets out the position of the hon. member who has moved the amendment. It reads as follows:

It is also competent to a member who desires to place on record any special reasons for not agreeing to the second reading of a bill, to move as an amendment to the question, a resolution declaratory of some principle adverse to, or differing from, the principles, policy, or provisions of the bill, or

expressing opinions as to any circumstances connected with its introduction, or prosecution; or otherwise opposed to its progress; or seeking further information in relation to the bill by committees, commissioners, the production of papers or other evidence or the opinion of judges.

What the hon. member has done is to move this very simple amendment, which reads:

That this bill be not read a second time until further consideration has been given to the repeal or reduction of the excise tax on motor cars.

The language in citation 382 is broad enough, in my opinion, not only to include the amendment but to go away beyond the scope of the amendment which my hon. friend has read and because of this I submit with deference that the amendment is in order.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Mr. Speaker, there is of course the obvious other point that this amendment, if it were entertained, would have the effect of disturbing the balance of ways and means.

Mr. McIlraith: No.

Mr. Chevrier: No.

Mr. Pickersgill: It asks for consideration only.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): If it is simply a matter of asking for consideration, in my respectful submission that is not an assertion of the kind of principle that is open to a private member in moving an amendment to the second reading of a bill.

Mr. Browne (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, on the point of order, I should like to refer you to a ruling which you made yourself, sir, on June 18, when I was speaking on the second reading of the bill to amend the hospital insurance act, in which you said, as reported at page 1400 of *Hansard*:

The principle that is being discussed is the principle of a rather narrow amendment to the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act.

Which I took to indicate that that would not open up the whole act for discussion.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask the hon. member for Fort William to defer his remarks until I have finished my ruling. I had some doubt as to whether this was not simply a negating amendment and, as all hon. members know, amendments are not accepted which are simply negative, because a negative point of view can be expressed by voting against the motion. I think this is more than that at this stage of the bill. This is a bill to amend the Excise Tax Act in a number of particulars, and the principle that is before the house is how the Excise Tax Act should be amended. The government has indicated how it feels it should be amended by introducing this bill and this amendment indicates that