

Debating Time Allotment

were right concerning our express demand that the Standing Orders and the work of the committees be respected. On behalf of my colleagues, I wish to congratulate him for it and to encourage him, throughout the whole debate on the procedure, to stay as positive and as open to the suggestions of the opposition.

[English]

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Having participated extensively in the debate on points of order in connection with the motion of the President of the Privy Council I would say that the points which have arisen in connection therewith, and the ruling which Your Honour has made, become an academic exercise: many of the arguments were not answered and it cannot serve as a precedent.

Mr. Speaker: Whether the hon. member for Edmonton West likes it or not, the very learned ruling which the Chair has given is inscribed in the annals of the House of Commons and will guide generations of parliamentarians to come.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Baldwin: Would the house be prepared to give consideration to following the procedure adopted in the debate some years ago, when we were discussing the question of the flag? It was agreed that the debate which then took place would be postponed day by day in accordance with the normal routine of our proceedings so that hon. members who had important and urgent questions to ask might have an opportunity to put them before the house.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Baldwin: I know the Prime Minister has been away for some time and I am sure he will have all kinds of answers ready.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps I should put the motion, because at this point the question is academic. The point of order can be raised later.

Mr. Baldwin: May I be permitted to advise Your Honour that if the hon. member wishes to speak we intend to pursue the same point of order as the one I raised yesterday; it applies with equal validity to the motion which is about to be put.

Mr. Speaker: I will put the motion and the hon. member can then raise his point of order.

[Mr. Fortin.]

PROCEDURE AND ORGANIZATION**MOTION FOR CONCURRENCE IN THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

Mr. D. Gordon Blair (Grenville-Carleton) moved:

That the third report of the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization, presented to the house on Friday, June 20, 1969, be concurred in.

Mr. Speaker: I understand the hon. member for Peace River has a point of order.

Mr. Baldwin: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Your Honour will probably recall from the interesting session that we had last night that I had occasion to rise on a point of order in respect of the motion that the President of the Privy Council was struggling to make. That point of order was a very simple one, and though tempted as I am I do not intend to traverse the ground that I then covered. For the purposes of my point of order I hope that the house will take into consideration the fact that the things I said last night apply equally to the motion standing in the name of the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton.

My basic point last night was that this house decided last December that this particular question was then negated by the proceedings of the house, and consequently cannot be brought forward for discussion now. I raise the same point of order at this time. I ask the house to take into account what I then said and apply them to this context. At the time of the adjournment yesterday the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre was half way through a very interesting and persuasive argument that I assume he is going to seek permission to resume at this time.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I would be pleased to hear from hon. members, but let me assure them that a lot of arguing will be needed to convince the Chair that the motion of the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton is not properly before the house. There might have been some doubt in connection with the other motion but the situation has now changed. However, I would be prepared to hear argument and make a decision on the point. The hon. member for Peace River submitted an argument yesterday which I listened to with great attention and which I have studied since that time. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre has participated in the debate, and if he feels that he should complete the argument that he was making last night I will of course be pleased to hear him