

RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank honourable Members for the expression of their views. Unfortunately, I do not think it is possible for the Chair to accept the motion proposed by the honourable Member (Mr. Skoberg). It is true that the Standing Order referred to by the honourable Member must be taken into account, but we must also take into account other Standing Orders, and particularly Standing Order 18(2) which reads: "Except as provided in Standing Orders 43 and 56, Government Orders may be called in such sequence as the Government may think fit."

There are a number of other precedents that I might bring to the attention of honourable Members. This is one precedent that is entirely on point. On that occasion a motion was brought under the Standing Order to move from one Government Order to another Government Order. The matter was not, as the honourable Member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Aiken) said, a proposal to move from a Government Order to a Private Member's Order.

I refer honourable Members to the *Journals* of the House of Commons, 1956, page 543, where the following is to be found: "Act the question being again proposed,—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the House to resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider a certain proposed Resolution . . ."

Mr. Fulton, seconded by Mr. Blair, moved,—That the House do proceed to another Order, namely No. 12."

Mr. Speaker ruled as follows: "May I point out to the honourable Member for Kamloops (Mr. Fulton), that I cannot accept his motion because the Order that is now before the House is a Government Order, and the other Order that the honourable Member now considers we should proceed with is Order No. 12, which is another Government Order, and Government Orders may be moved only by the Leader of the House. I would refer honourable Members to Standing Order 18(2)."

There is also citation 136, which reads: "All motions referring to the business of the House should be introduced by the Leader of the House."

By virtue of Standing Order 18(2) the government has full jurisdiction over its own Orders. Standing Order 18(2) reads: "Except as provided in Standing Order 56, Government Orders may be called in such sequence as the government may think fit."

Therefore, I cannot accept the honourable Member's motion.

In view of this precedent—and in the circumstances this is the only one which I thought was necessary to bring to the attention of honourable Members—I regret I cannot put to the House the motion proposed by the honourable Member.

Debate was resumed on the motion of Mr. Kierans, seconded by Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale),—That Bill C-116, An Act to amend the Post Office Act, be now read a second time.

And on the motion of Mr. Macquarrie, seconded by Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre), in amendment thereto,—That Bill C-116, An Act to amend the Post Office Act, be not now read a second time, but that the subject-matter thereof be referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

And debate continuing;

[At 5.00 o'clock p.m., Private Members' Business was called pursuant to provisional Standing Order 15(3)]