

*Motions for Papers***MOTIONS FOR PAPERS**

SUBMISSIONS ON BILL C-38

Motion No. 50—Mr. Howard:

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of all briefs, letters, and submissions presented to the government or any agency or branch thereof since January 22, 1961, dealing with Bill C-38.

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice): We are prepared to accept this motion with the reservation that documents of a confidential nature, or documents which are ordinarily privileged, will not be expected to be produced. As this bill was introduced in the house only on January 22, 1962, there can be no briefs dealing with Bill C-38 as such prior to that date.

Mr. Howard: I am sorry that did not come to my attention earlier. That "1961" is a typographical error. It should be 1962.

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed that an amendment be made in the motion so that it will read 1962?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Subject to the reservation expressed by the parliamentary secretary is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

BEAUCEVILLE, QUE.—PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

Motion No. 52—Mr. Racine:

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of all correspondence, telegrams, options, and contracts concerning the purchase of a lot for the construction of a public building in Beauceville, together with a copy of all contracts or other documents now in the possession of the Department of Public Works relating to this property.

Mr. Roberge: I move this motion on behalf of the hon. member for Beauce (Mr. Racine).

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed that the hon. member for Megantic may proceed in the absence of the hon. member for Beauce?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Why not?

An hon. Member: You are afraid.

Mr. Pigeon: No, we are not afraid; he is not in the house.

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Laurier): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege having to do with this motion as well as questions in the name of the hon. member for Beauce which were raised as a question of privilege

in the house some time ago. The points I raise are two in number. First, there are five questions standing in the name of the hon. member, certainly the vast majority of which could have been answered in a very short time.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Chevrier: They were not answered—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I think the hon. member for Laurier will agree with me that delay in answering a question, or the absence of an answer, does not raise a question of privilege.

Mr. Hellyer: The government has to keep the old cabbage leaves well covered.

Mr. Chevrier: In view of the serious allegations made by the hon. member, I think it would be appropriate to answer the question.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Chevrier: However, dealing with the motion, if the minister and the government, who seem to be unmoved by the questions and the motion, are so sure of the facts it seems to me they should accept the motion.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I thought perhaps the hon. member was raising a point of order as to whether the motion could be placed before the house in the absence of the hon. member in whose name it stands. My impression is that without the consent of the house a substitute mover is not acceptable.

Mr. Chevrier: I was coming to that point, Mr. Speaker, and I was going to ask you to invite the house, in view of the question of privilege raised by my hon. friend, to decide that this is one of those cases wherein unanimous consent might well be given.

(Translation):

Mr. Pigeon: If he had any sense of responsibility, he would be in the house.

(Text):

Mr. Ricard: Mr. Speaker, on the question of privilege raised by the hon. member for Laurier, if it was felt to be important that the hon. member for Beauce should clarify this question, I think he should be in the house now.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am advised that the practice which the house has followed in the case of motions coming before the house in the absence of the mover is that if the motion is opposed, the mover must be present; if the motion is unopposed, the house has normally