

Territorial Sea and Fishing Zones Act

bers of the following statement in May's seventeenth edition, at page 549:

An amendment is out of order if it is irrelevant to the subject matter or beyond the scope of the bill,

I suggest that the motion is a statement, as the hon. member for Selkirk pointed out, of a substantive and declaratory nature and it is not relevant to the purposes or the subject matter of Bill C-203. For these reasons the motion is out of order.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I wonder if I can appeal to the House for understanding with regard to a difficulty that I think will be recognized when we come to the next motion in the name of the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett). He is presently attending a very important meeting of the Indian Affairs Committee. If we stand that motion and proceed to Bill C-4, the hon. member for Waterloo (Mr. Saltsman), like other members who have moved amendments to that bill, is attending an important meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

Mr. Fairweather: All that is left is group singing.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I wonder if we could not have some community singing while we send for these members. I would go for them myself, but if I go the House might adjourn.

Mr. McGrath: You can lead us in song.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The suggestion that we should have community singing appeals to me greatly so long as I am not involved in directing or leading it. It seems to me that in the interlude we might turn our attention to the motion in the name of the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett). I have some procedural doubts. I do not know if the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) would care to utilize the interlude in defence of the motion while the member is being contacted in the committee.

Mr. McGrath: You are invited to make a speech, Stanley.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): One thing I can promise not to do is to lead the singing.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I would be run out fast.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

Mr. Walker: You have unanimous consent.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I think I heard my hon. friend, the member for York Centre (Mr. Walker), say there is unanimous dissent.

• (8:20 p.m.)

Hon. members will be glad to know that I do not have to sing; here is the hon. member for Comox-Alberni. Mr. Speaker, now that the hon. member for Comox-Alberni has arrived—

Mr. Bell: Introduce him.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): May I introduce my friend? He has just returned from being exposed to the "red paper". Perhaps the motion could be put in his name and I will be glad to second it, and if Your Honour still has some procedural difficulties we could deal with them. You are having quite a day.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: As has been indicated, the Chair does have some misgivings about the motion in the name of the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett). I will again suggest the areas of doubt so that the hon. member may compose some cogent and convincing arguments as to why the amendment should be put. Again, it seems to me that the proposal goes beyond the scope of the bill. I do not want to prejudge the question in a very definitive way, in the event that I might be persuaded to the contrary, but at this point I have serious doubts and I am prepared to hear the hon. member if he has procedural arguments to contribute.

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni) moved:

That Bill C-203, an act to provide for the amendment of the Territorial Sea and Fishing Zones Act, be amended in clause 2 thereof by deleting the proposed section 4. (1), and substituting therefor the following:

"4.(1) The fishing zones of Canada comprise all waters adjacent to the coasts of Canada, the natural resources of whose subjacent submarine areas Her Majesty in right of Canada has the right to dispose of or exploit, and such other areas of the sea adjacent to the coasts of Canada as may be prescribed by the Governor in Council pursuant to subsection (1) of section 5A."

He said: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might be allowed to explain my view of this amendment. Incidentally, if I recall correctly, it was accepted by the Standing Committee without any question about its being in order. It makes explicit what is implicit in the bill as