

Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill

If you follow citation No. 195 you will find that, contrary to the view of the Minister of Agriculture, the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre is in order precisely because of this citation.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): The Chair thanks hon. members for their learned comments on this point. In reference to the point raised by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), the Chair agrees that if we follow Standing Order 24, it has priority, but that does not mean it is acceptable to the Chair. Standing Order 46 is more restrictive in that it specifies the manner which may be used from time to time to adjourn the debate on a specific matter. On the other hand, the Chair feels that the motion proposed at this time by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre is more or less a nullity because it asks the House to proceed now to orders of the day. That is the position facing the House at this time.

The hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard) has asked the Chair to consider citation No. 195 of *Beauchesne's Fourth Edition*. The Chair has considered what is said at page 405 of May's seventeenth edition. The bottom paragraph of that page reads as follows:

The motion, "that the orders of the day be read," is obsolete as a substantive motion; though it survives in the form of an amendment, "That this House do pass to the orders of the day," moved upon a motion interposed before the ordinary business of the day, such as a privileged motion—

Having read this paragraph the Chair has no alternative other than to come to the decision that the motion cannot be acceptable at this time.

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Although I accept your ruling and I am happy about it, it has become obvious that we are not going to make any substantial progress in respect of Bill C-176 inasmuch as spokesmen of two parties have indicated they wish this debate adjourned and consideration moved to another item. If there is that agreement and we have unanimous consent, perhaps we might adjourn this item and call item No. 75 with the hope that we can complete that order of business tonight.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): The Chair has heard the point of order raised by the minister. If his suggestion were put in the form of a motion it would not be acceptable because, as the minister has acknowledged, it requires the unanimous consent of the House. If there is unanimous consent we can move to another item.

Mr. Bell: On behalf of our party, Mr. Speaker, I should like to state that we are in favour of moving on to the motion in respect of the Judges Act. We feel that the acting House leader should stand up like a man and make a proper motion. If he does, I am sure he will have the consent of the House and we will try to accommodate his wishes.

Mr. Olson: If I may, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner):

That this debate be adjourned.

[Mr. Howard (Skeena).]

• (9:40 p.m.)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The Chair has already informed the minister that it is not possible for him to seek the floor on a point of order for the purpose of moving a motion. There is no other alternative but for the Chair to let the House pursue the debate on the motion before us at this time.

[Translation]

Mr. Marcel Lessard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, since the debate on Bill C-176 is resuming its normal course, we will be able to get a little peace and order, since I am not given to flights of eloquence.

When the debate was interrupted by points of order, Mr. Speaker, we were discussing amendments—

[English]

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a very specific point of order in respect of which I wish the attention of the whole House. If you should rule me out of order, Mr. Speaker, I will accept your ruling. However, we on this side of the House have been accused—

An hon. member: Not your side; you alone.

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, I hear catcalls but I cannot hear them clearly. I have been out of the House for the past half hour because of personal business. During that time I understand certain remarks were made concerning myself. However, my point of order deals with the subject matter of Bill C-176 which is now before this House. We on this side have been accused of holding it up. We have put up just one speaker tonight and the government has already had two speakers. Now, Sir, in your august position you have recognized a third member from the government side. Only 15 minutes of debating time remain. If we are to be accused of holding up this legislation, I would move now that this House hear the hon. member for Permbina (Mr. Bigg) so that our case may be put clearly and unequivocally.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon. member knows he cannot seek the floor for the purpose of putting a motion. On the other point, I suggest that the hon. member is unfair to the Chair when he implies that the Chair might be involved in this debate. The Chair feels it acts on its own prerogative in recognizing Members of Parliament to speak. It is not always easy to go from one side of the Chamber to the other. Generally, however, the Chair tries to be as just as possible. With regard to the other complaint of the hon. member, the Chair can only look at it as a grievance and no more, because it is very difficult when hon. members seek the floor for the purpose of contesting points of order that have been made by other members of the House.

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of privilege. I lead off by offering an apology to the Chair because in no way did I want to place the Chair in a difficult