

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Althouse:—this petition is addressed to the honourable the House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Althouse: The petition of the undersigned residents of Canada—

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Althouse:—who now exercise their right to present a grievance humbly sheweth: Whereas the splitting of producer cars—

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, may I—

Mr. Althouse:—for moving grain has long been used by producers but was blocked recently by a Justice decision—

Mr. Nielsen: May I be heard, please?

Mr. Althouse:—that the grain Act did not permit the splitting of producer cars—

Mr. Nielsen: May I be recognized, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Althouse:—we therefore call upon the Parliament of Canada to give speedy assent—

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Althouse:—to Motion 321-7/9A—

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Althouse:—introduced by the Minister of Justice which would remedy this situation and once again—

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Althouse:—restore the right of producers to split producers' cars.

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NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM

RESPONSIBILITY FOR CANADIAN OWNERSHIP ACCOUNT

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, may I be heard, please?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Would the Hon. Member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) please state on what basis he seeks to be recognized.

Mr. Nielsen: I have been trying to tell the Chair that—

An Hon. Member: Oh, sit down!

Mr. Nielsen:—for the last 15 minutes but the Chair not only interrupts but will not listen to what I have to say.

Statements by Ministers

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Would the Hon. Member please state if he is rising on a point of order; yes or no?

Mr. Nielsen: You can regard it as a point of order or a question of privilege, if you will. Take it either way. I want to cite—

Mr. Chrétien: He does not have to decide.

Mr. Nielsen: I really cannot—

Some Hon. Members: Order!

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nielsen: I really cannot fathom how the Chair can decide what I am going to say before I say it.

What I was going to do was draw the attention of the Chair to Citation 262 of *Beauchesne* which divides the period with respect to Statements by Ministers into a statement in reply—that is one phase of it—and questions which follow those two statements; so that the second element is a separate point of order.

Mr. Chrétien: Is that a statement?

Mr. Nielsen: I want to put that to the Chair. It reads as follows:

Statements by Ministers have now been given a recognized place in Routine Proceedings.

That has happened. It goes on to say:

The Standing Order is specific but considerable latitude has been left to the Speaker to set limits on the participants. The Speaker has emphasized that both the Government and Opposition contributions should be brief and factual. The purpose of the ministerial statement—

And so on. Citation 263 reads as follows:

A brief question and answer period may follow the Minister's statement and Opposition comments.

It is that second point of order that I put to the Chair, that there is still a brief question period. The rules allow us to put questions to the Minister following the two contributions, the one by the Minister and the one by the Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I call to the attention of the Hon. Member that this matter is at the discretion of the Chair. The question is also at the discretion of the Chair. It is very explicit in the Standing Orders and the Chair has not, in the total circumstances, and I think quite understandably, allowed further discussion or questioning on the matter. I hope, with the co-operation of Hon. Members, to proceed to the next item of business.

Mr. Chrétien: Read the rest.

Mr. Roy: Table the book.

Mr. Nielsen: I would if I could. Somebody needs it, in this place. Mr. Speaker, if you have no—