

adjourn the consideration of clause 3, is rule 55, which says that:

In proceedings in Committee of the Whole House upon Bills, the preamble is first postponed, and then every clause considered by the committee in its proper order, the preamble and title to be last considered.

Under that rule it might be possible to contend that we were on clause 1, if it had not been passed, and therefore we are on clause 2; but I submit that there is no possible justification for our proceeding to consider clause 4. Let us look at the reason which you have given, Mr. Chairman. You commenced this afternoon to read the votes and proceedings of last night, and you got as far as saying that the motion of the right hon. Prime Minister that we should pass from clause 3, and postpone its discussion had been offered to the House, but you failed to read that the motion had been passed. I am sure that you will bear me out in saying that, weighty as are the motions of the right hon. the Prime Minister, we are not bound by them until these motions are passed. It is true that the Prime Minister last night moved that we postpone consideration of clause 3, but it is equally true that this committee did not pass such a motion.

Mr. BOYCE: I would ask my hon. friend if he has read page 9570 of 'Hansard,' upon which appears the following:

Mr. Borden: I move that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. KNOWLES: I am afraid that my hon. friend has fallen into a little mistake from the hasty glance which he has given to the matter and I think we will have to fall back on the hon. member for Portage la Prairie (Mr. Meighen), who might get us out of the muddle. I do not think that the thing is so easily disposed of.

Mr. BUREAU: He has been repudiated.

Mr. KNOWLES: I suppose they will enthrone him again. He is the only one they have, and until some one else rises to lead them out of the muddle in which they have got they will have to fall back upon him. It is a puzzle to me how we ever got along in this House before he enlightened us with his assistance; we certainly must have made a great many mistakes. I suppose that where ignorance is bliss it is folly to be wise and we will not ask him to look over our former rulings. Now that we have him here I call his attention to the fact that we are not correctly on clause 4. I do not think the member for Portage la Prairie is sure what clause we are on. I think we are on clause 2, but that has been ruled against; at all

events, we are not on clause 4. At page 9570 of 'Hansard' you will notice that an appeal was taken, and a vote was had, and the ruling of the Chair was confirmed. After the record of the vote I read from 'Hansard':

House again in Committee on the Bill (Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair).

Mr. Borden: I move that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Using the appetizing and delicate metaphor of my hon. friend from Portage la Prairie, it was perhaps half taken down and swallowed, but it did not stay down. The House in any event did not carry it in its stomach overnight, but disposed of it there and then by the committee rising and reporting what progress had been made. The motion was not then passed. I do not think it passed during the still watches of the night, and it has not yet passed.

An hon. MEMBER: It was never put.

Mr. KNOWLES: If it had been, there would have been a vote on it.

Mr. BORDEN: I do not know what the 'Hansard' record is, but after the vote had been taken in the House, when the Chairman resumed the Chair, I asked him to put the question, and it was declared carried.

Mr. KNOWLES: The record does not show it.

Mr. BORDEN: I cannot help what the record shows. I have a distinct recollection of doing that before I made the motion that the committee rise and report progress.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: I was not in the House when that occurred; but as I understand it, my hon. friend from St. John (Mr. Pugsley) made a motion, my right hon. friend the Prime Minister made a motion to postpone clause 3, and the member for St. John moved the previous question, upon which a point of order was taken. The point of order was decided against the member for St. John on appeal. After the vote was taken the House came back into committee, and as I understand it, there was no question put.

Mr. BORDEN: The question was pending. I had made the motion; the hon. member for St. John moved the previous question; the Chairman ruled that the previous question could not be moved; an appeal was taken to the House; the House sustained the ruling of the Chairman; and when the Chairman resumed the Chair I asked him to put the question, and he did put the question and declared it carried.

Mr. KNOWLES: I have no recollection whatever of it having been put, and if it