

his word of honour, I submit that Your Honour must be guided by what actually occurred and what is shown by the Journals of the house. The record is abundantly clear. I must say that I am amazed at the right hon. gentleman raising this point. What is to be gained by it? Nothing whatever. There is no doubt that all hon. members are anxious to conclude the business of the house and to get away. If there was any objection to be raised to meeting at eleven o'clock this morning, the time to have raised it was when the right hon. gentleman was courteously invited so to do. He did not do so; he left it to the Prime Minister to decide, and the Prime Minister named eleven o'clock. The motion to adjourn was before the house at the moment and there was nothing further which could have been done by the Prime Minister or by the Speaker.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Perhaps I could make my purpose still more clear by referring to the procedure which was adopted when the house received permission to sit on Saturday morning. Hansard of Wednesday, July 29, 1931, at page 4273, under the heading "Business of the House" has the following to say:

Right Hon. R. B. Bennett (Prime Minister): I cannot say what progress will be made with the business of the house, but I thought it desirable that we should provide for a sitting on Saturday morning next at eleven o'clock, as we may likely conclude business that day. With the consent of the house I shall move the motion, or I shall put it on the order for consideration to-morrow as the house may think desirable.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

What was said by the Prime Minister on Saturday night is to all intents and purposes in accordance with what up to this point he said on July 29. In other words, the Prime Minister expressed his intention of moving that we should sit on Saturday and when it became apparent that there would be no objection, then the Prime Minister made a formal motion as follows:

Mr. Bennett: I beg to move:

That on Saturday first August next, the house shall meet at eleven o'clock in the morning. That in addition to the usual intermission at six o'clock, p.m., there shall also be an intermission from one to three o'clock, p.m., and that the order of business and procedure shall be the same as on Friday.

That motion was formally adopted by this house by unanimous consent. That is what gave us permission to sit on Saturday morning, it should have included words suspending standing order No. 2; that is what regularizes all the proceedings of Saturday. A similar motion was not put on Saturday night.

Mr. BENNETT: Because no notice is required with respect to adjournment—

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Certainly not.

Mr. BENNETT: —nor the business of the house.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: A notice is required to suspend standing order 2.

Mr. BENNETT: No notice is required to fix the hour for sitting. Surely my right hon. friend must admit that he is estopped from repudiating what he agreed to the other night.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The rule of the house is:

The time for the meeting of the house is at three o'clock in the afternoon of each sitting day.

That standing order cannot be changed except by formal motion such as was put on Wednesday last with respect to the sitting on Saturday.

Mr. BENNETT: The decision is the other way.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Apart from there being no record of any motion in regard to the suspension of standing order No. 2, I can see no justification whatever for the votes and proceedings purporting to report a motion which was never put to this house.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the discussion has gone far enough. It is true that under standing order 2 the time for the meeting of the house is three o'clock in the afternoon, but if hon. members will refer to standing order 45 they will find the following:

Forty-eight hours' notice shall be given of a motion for leave to present a bill, resolution or address, for the appointment of any committee, or for placing a question on the order paper, but this rule shall not apply to bills after their introduction, or to private bills, or to the times of meeting or adjournment of the house.

No notice is required of a resolution with reference to the meeting or adjournment of the house. That would seem to settle that point in the controversy.

It was very clear to me on Saturday night that all parties present agreed that this house should meet again at eleven o'clock this morning. As is quoted in Hansard, a discussion on the point took place between the right hon. the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) and the right hon., the leader of the opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King). The leader of the opposition leaves it to me to say whether or not I put the motion. My recollection is that I did put the motion. That is as far as I can go; if I was put on oath I would not