

that he will ever be in any position of responsibility. We had an illustration of what he would say about it. We had the first attempt to apply the gag in this House by my hon. friend from North Simcoe and on the construing of that very clause. I have only to mention a few things like that to show the Premier that, what he thinks may be fair, his followers may not think fair.

Mr. BORDEN: I thought my hon. friend said a moment ago that neither I nor the hon. member for North Simcoe would have anything to do with the enforcing of the rule, that it would be the Speaker who would have to do so.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. CARVELL: My friends opposite cheer. As they get so few chances to cheer my right hon. friend, I do not blame them very much. Unfortunately my friend from North Simcoe was in the place of the Speaker on that occasion. That is where the trouble lies. It might be possible that my hon. friend from North Simcoe would be the real Speaker, and then Heaven help us. That is what might happen if the member for North Simcoe were in the Chair. It is the Speaker who interprets these rules and not the Premier. The Premier does not seem to be able to understand me. It is only an ordinary illustration of what I said when he was out of the House a moment ago. I do not believe he realizes the real venom behind the resolution. It is only when it is brought to his attention that he tries to get out of it as best he can. He is not the leader; he is being led. Suppose the hon. member for North Simcoe were the Speaker under these rules, where would we be? The most of us would be down with Miller, I think.

Mr. CURRIE: That is where you should be.

Mr. CARVELL: That is a matter of opinion.

There is another rule of this House which shows how my right hon. friend might be deceived, subsection 1 of rule 13, which says:

A chairman of committees of the House shall be elected at the commencement of every Parliament, as soon as an address has been agreed to in answer to His Excellency's Speech; and the member so elected shall, if in his place in the House, take the Chair of all committees of the Whole.

Then it says:

In the absence of the Chairman of Committees of the House the Speaker may in forming a Committee of the Whole House, before leaving the Chair appoint any member chairman of the committee.

If I were to ask my right hon. friend for an interpretation of that rule, he would say

certainly that means that the gentleman who was chairman of the committee must assume the duties of Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, but he would say also that in the absence of the Chairman when a committee is formed, the Speaker designates some other gentleman to perform the office of Chairman. Of course, he would say that nobody would conceive the idea of any other interpretation. But what do we find? What did we find one night in the absence of the right hon. gentleman? While the Deputy Speaker was here in the House, after he had taken his place as chairman of the Committee of the Whole and was carrying out the duties of that office, another gentleman in this House was put in his place, a man who has a great deal of legal acumen, a man brought in here for a certain purpose and who carried out that purpose, a man who ruled out of order all the amendments we had been discussing for a fortnight.

Mr. CURRIE: Why did not you appeal it?

Mr. CARVELL: We wanted to get in another amendment, if the hon. gentleman wants to know. And we got it in.

Mr. BOYCE: An opportunity for obstruction.

Mr. CARVELL: My right hon. friend was prepared to construe that in the right way, but the trouble was when another man got a chance he construed it in the wrong way. The right hon. gentleman had to admit that that gentleman was wrong, and we put up such a serious kick that he got scared and ruled this gentleman out of order and brought back the real chairman. These things only show that we cannot trust my right hon. friend. He will do things wrong until you actually show him that he is wrong. He has not as much nerve as the Minister of Public Works; when the situation gets too hot he surrenders. And he surrendered on Saturday morning about seven o'clock and put the real Chairman in the Chair. These are only illustrations to prove that we need rules that do not have to have a special construction in order to secure justice and fair-play for every member of the House. And that is what we are complaining of. The object of this rule is to have a gag and prevent free speech by members of the Opposition. We are convinced that it is not well for us to take the professions of fair-play made by my right hon. friend no matter how sincere he may be. We have the right to have rules, that, fairly construed, will secure the rights of every member of the House in this Parliament or any future Parliament. We find in every statement and every act of this Government for the