

proceedings regular, I raise the point of order.

HON. MR. DICKEY—This amendment has no reference to the question before the House. The question before the House is consistent with the idea that they have the power. My hon. friend's resolution, as a substantive one, is very good, and probably I might be induced to vote for it if he would bring it up in the ordinary way by giving notice of motion, but the question before this House now is, whether we should accept or reject this report—a report which, for that purpose, we may assume that the committee have or have not the power to make.

THE SPEAKER—The hon. gentleman from British Columbia is clearly out of order in moving this amendment. The question before the House is the consideration of the report.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—I wish to make an explanation, as I am a member of the committee on reporting debates.

HON. MR. MILLER—There is no motion before the House. If the hon. gentleman wishes to speak on the subject he should move the adoption of the report.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—I move the adoption of the report, and I wish to put myself right with regard to the report. The hon. gentleman from British Columbia has endeavored to impress this House with the idea that the committee tried to eliminate something from the official report of the debates. That is not the state of the case. What are the committee appointed for? To do a certain thing. Now, have they done anything to take away the powers of the House? The hon. gentleman from Charlottetown has stated that by his own wish the notes of the debate were preserved. Not at all. They were preserved at the instance of the members of the committee, so that the House might do as they thought fit after they read the report. Now, what does the report of the committee say? It recommends to the House a certain course, which the House can adopt if they like. We do not take the power into our own hands to say that one man's speech should be omitted and another's published. The debate related to a question which might

properly be called one of domestic concern, and it would be wiser, in our judgment, to omit the report, as we recommended the House to do. So far from taking the power from the House we left it in the hands of the House. Our powers, as a committee, are to report from time to time to the House and to arrange that the debates of the House shall be properly reported.

HON. MR. McINNES (B.C.)—Not suppressed.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—There was nothing suppressed. We recommended that the debate referred to should not be printed in the official report of the debates of the Senate.

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B.C.). Who referred the debate to the Committee? Where is the reference?

HON. MR. HOWLAN—The chairman has explained. The reporters came and asked, as they have often done, what they should do, and the report was withheld until our recommendation to the House is acted upon. We have taken nothing from the House; we have suppressed nothing. We merely recommend that the debate on a certain subject should be omitted. Now, the House can accept or reject that report if they see fit. I do not see how any blame can be attached to the committee. I stoutly express the same opinion here that I did in the committee. Notwithstanding all that I have heard to the contrary, I think it would be much better not to put that debate on the records of the Senate.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—As a member of this House, I moved on the 14th February that the report of the Contingencies Committee be referred back for reconsideration. I have looked into this matter. As the official report appears, no reason is given for the action of the House on that occasion. The question which was then dealt with was whether we should superannuate one of our servants. The question was calmly deliberated on here, and there is nothing in that debate which would justify its suppression or delay in its publication. The report should have been published in order to justify the action of those who voted with the majority. When the members of the Debates Committee took it upon themselves then