

a motion. He makes a motion. That motion normally should be taken up immediately, be dealt with and decided upon; or someone may suggest, "We will take this up tomorrow". But these motions are not on the notice paper. They take place without notice. I would correct the honourable Member when he says that you place a motion on the order paper. A motion with regard to privilege is one that must be taken up immediately.

And Debate continuing on the point of Order;

MR. SPEAKER: Has the honourable Member for Eglinton (Mr. Fleming), looked at Standing Order 26, subsection 6, paragraph (e):

"The right to move the adjournment of the House for the above purposes is subject to the following restrictions:

(e) The motion must not raise a question of privilege."

That is where the whole issue lies between honourable Members and myself. It is a question of privilege. I think the honourable Member so indicated a moment ago when he said that this matter was so important it went deep down into the roots of our parliamentary system. That is my reason for not accepting the amendment.

And the honourable Member for Eglinton having stated that Mr. Speaker proposed to regard this as a motion raising a question of privilege; his point was that it is not just a question of privilege. It arose out of a discussion here this morning that began with a question of privilege, but it is something that goes far beyond any question of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: It may go far beyond but there is in it a question of privilege. The Minister of Trade and Commerce, in that motion which is one for the adjournment of the House, is accused of having made a misstatement. If the honourable Member for Eglinton were accused, as the Minister is, and if someone were to ask me that this matter be made one of privilege and a motion were brought by which he could either be condemned or vindicated by the House, I would say by all means let us have the motion. This motion under Standing Order 26 may be debated all day until the adjournment at six o'clock. What is the position with respect to the accusation against the Minister? So far as the House is concerned, when we adjourn at six o'clock, there will still be the accusation that he made a misstatement. The Minister is entitled to have the House decide on the statement made by the honourable Member for Prince Albert or concerning any other speeches accusing him of a misstatement, and on his own explanation and any other speeches made on his behalf taking his point of view, to have the House decide whether or not he has made a misstatement.

There is a point at issue here; you are raising a question of privilege and to do so you say, "Let us move the adjournment of the House," and the result of the debate will be that we adjourn the House at six o'clock and the accusation still confronts the Minister. The same thing would obtain if the honourable Member or indeed if any other honourable Member were concerned. It is a question of privilege and you have to deal with it as such.

The honourable Member for Prince Albert should have pursued his point by moving a motion which might have been in the sense of this motion here. It would perhaps have been taken up immediately. Now we are into the routine proceedings and we must carry on.