

Minister of Public Works. It is not a matter for us to consider as parliamentary printing.

HON. MR. MILLER—Whether the report is to be considered parliamentary printing or not is of little consequence, when there appears on our Journal a record denying the publication and afterwards a resolution recommending to the Government the publication of it. There will be some inconsistency in it, but the difficulty stated by the hon. gentleman from Sarnia is very great—the impossibility, perhaps, of getting the Joint Committee together at this late period of the Session; therefore, we might as well allow the slight inconsistency to pass—let the report go and the resolution carry. It is the only course I think that will attain the object which hon. gentlemen have in view who desire the publication of this document.

HON. MR. OGILVIE—I do not think the motion of the hon. gentleman from Montarville will accomplish the object at all. If we accept the report, and pass it as it is now, that will be the end of it. I certainly do not agree with the hon. gentleman from Sarnia when he says this is not properly parliamentary printing. If it is not, I do not know what is parliamentary printing. We certainly have a great many documents printed that are very much less parliamentary printing than this report is. I cannot see any reason why the committee cannot meet to-morrow morning.

HON. MR. MILLER—Have you any certainty that they will meet?

HON. MR. OGILVIE—There is a chance of it.

HON. MR. MILLER—If they did meet, and reiterated their report, it would be very difficult for us to take any other course than to follow their recommendation.

HON. MR. DRUMMOND—Supposing we do not adopt the report, and they are not able to deal with it this Session, will it not leave the matter open until next Session?

HON. MR. VIDAL

HON. MR. MILLER—The difference is this: by adopting the report we decide that this paper is not parliamentary printing, and by adopting the resolution of the hon. gentleman from Montarville we make it departmental printing, which the Minister, if he chose to do so, might accept in that way and publish the report.

HON. MR. DEBOUCHERVILLE—We have been asked this morning about the expense of the Senate and House of Commons. If this report is printed by order of the Joint Committee the expense of it will be charged to the Senate and House of Commons; while if the other course is adopted, and the printing is done by the department, it will be an apparent economy. But we should not say we do not want to expend that money ourselves; we think the department ought to make the expenditure. That is not a very consistent argument. The hon. gentleman from Alma thinks there is no difficulty in referring the report back to the Joint Committee with instructions, but in order to do so we would have to send a message to the House of Commons, which would take another day, and the proposition is to prorogue to-morrow. In the other House there might be a discussion on our message, and those members who voted against the printing of this report might not see the importance of recommending its being printed, as we do here. As every member here is in favor of the report being printed we ought to take the shortest course to have it done, and the shortest course is to ask the Government to do it.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—I may state that in the other House the report has not been adopted, and it is the intention of the chairman of the committee to move a reconsideration of that clause.

HON. MR. DEBOUCHERVILLE—Supposing it comes up in the Commons to-morrow, and the House refuses to reconsider the report?

THE SPEAKER—The question is now on the motion to refer the report back for a reconsideration of that clause.

The motion was agreed to.