

the motion which I moved to-night. It was a matter of decision by the Speaker; the House was thoroughly aware that I had a motion to move in the matter.

Mr. REID: The hon. member may have given the Speaker notice; he certainly never gave the Government or any member of the Government notice.

Mr. OLIVER: I was ruled out from making the motion. The House was aware that I would make a motion in the matter upon the first opportunity upon going into Supply. This is the first opportunity.

Mr. GRAHAM: As I understand it, the hon. member endeavoured to move the motion, but it was ruled out on the ground that Supply was taken up automatically on that day.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I am informed that the Prime Minister himself was paired with the hon. member for Edmonton. I am certain that had the Prime Minister known that the motion was to come up, he would have remained in the House.

Mr. OLIVER: I did not know that we were going into Supply to-night. If my hon. friend desires to go into personal matters, I may say that when I paired with the Prime Minister I had intended to go home, not anticipating that we should take up Supply to-night.

Mr. MEIGHEN: It is admitted that we had no notice of the nature of the amendment.

Mr. OLIVER: Oh, no.

Mr. REID: If the hon. member objects, we will rise now.

Progress reported.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Reid, the House adjourned at 12 midnight.

Tuesday, September 18, 1917.

The House met at Three o'clock, the Speaker in the Chair.

HOUSE OF COMMONS OFFICIALS.

OFFICIAL DEBATES BRANCH.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN moved:

That the recommendation of His Honour the Speaker, laid on the table of the House on the 12th instant, to abolish the office of secretary of the Hansard section of the Reporting Branch of the House and to appoint an official shorthand reporter to that section in grade B of the first division, under the provisions of the Civil Service Act, be concurred in.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: Is that the recommendation of the Debates Committee of the House?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: This is entirely under the Civil Service Act.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: I understand the Committee on Debates agrees to that?

Motion agreed to.

PRINTING OF PARLIAMENT.

REPORTS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF BOTH HOUSES DISCUSSED.

Mr. J. A. CURRIE (North Simcoe) moved:

That the third report of the joint committee of both Houses on the printing of Parliament be concurred in.

Mr. SPEAKER: I wish to direct attention to that portion of the report of the committee which is printed at page 1064 of the Votes and Proceedings:

3. That the recommendations contained in the second report of the special committee appointed to consider, inquire into and report upon the reception, treatment, care, training and re-education of the wounded, disabled and convalescent returned soldiers of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces, presented to the House of Commons on Tuesday, July 17, be not concurred in.

Obviously such a report is ultra vires of the Printing Committee. The matter was not referred to that committee, and if it were, the committee would not have power to make such a recommendation. The recommendation contained in subclause 4 of 239 would appear to be open to similar objection.

Mr. MURPHY: I drew the attention of the hon. member for Simcoe (Mr. Currie) to this matter last week, and I understood a correction was to be made.

Mr. CURRIE: Apparently, in the preparation of this report for the committee, the secretary did not make the matter sufficiently clear. The words "for additional printing" should be inserted after the word "recommendation." The House will understand that the reports of this Returned Soldiers Committee were published from day to day. That committee made this recommendation which was referred by the House to the committee on printing:

Your Committee also recommends that the Preliminary, and this Report and the Minutes of Proceedings and evidence submitted herewith, together with a suitable index to be prepared by the Clerk of the Committee, be printed in both languages in blue-book form for distribu-