

though rule 13 says that the rule of the House shall apply in committee, still he does not think so, I think that I would be governed by the rule instead of by Dr. Flint's opinion and so I would ask this committee to be governed by the fair and plain words of the rule rather than by a statement that Bourinot has made, if Bourinot has made that statement.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Give the page.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Perhaps my hon. friend will give the reference.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Go on.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I am asking a respectful question. Would he give the page of Bourinot?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Page.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I assume that the hon. gentleman has quoted Bourinot for your information and that you would have a right, if I have not, to ask him the page of Bourinot to which he refers because he has asked you to decide on Bourinot.

The CHAIRMAN: I think I could give my ruling.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I have not concluded yet.

The CHAIRMAN: I have no desire to interrupt the hon. gentleman but I informed him that I feel that I have all the necessary information.

Mr. PUGSLEY: But it very often happens that Chairman's information is derived from a discussion which may affect the decision. I have argued cases before judges before now and they have thought before I commenced that they knew what the decision ought to be. I have even known a judge, when very eminent lawyers have concluded their arguments, to pull his decision out of a drawer, having prepared it before the argument began. What my hon. friend from Portage la Prairie has said is that the previous question cannot be moved in committee. That I deny. I have given to the matter as much consideration as I could give to it and I invite your attention to rule 13, clause 4, which 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. The rules of the House shall be observed in the Committee of the Whole House so far as may be applicable, except the rules as to the seconding of motions and limiting the number and times of speaking.

Could language be plainer than that language? The majority of this House when they thought to pass a resolution which would gag and manacle the members of the House, did not choose

to alter that rule but left it there with binding force upon this House and with binding force upon you, the Chairman of this committee. No one can deny that the previous question can be moved when the Speaker is in the Chair. Now, if the rules of the House are to be observed in the Committee of the Whole, so far as may be applicable, the previous question can be moved when the House is in Committee of the Whole. What is to prevent the previous question being applicable in the Committee of the Whole, just as it is when the Speaker is in the Chair? Can any reason be suggested why it should not be applicable? No man can suggest a reason. As I have said the House has declared that all these rules shall be applicable when the House is in Committee of the Whole so far as they can be applied. The only exceptions are as to the seconding of motions and the limiting of the number of times of speaking. Therefore, I claim that my motion, that this question be now put is entirely in order, and quite in accordance with rule 13 and under the resolution which has been passed, and which I shall assume is for the moment in force. I will read the words again. You have there, Mr. Chairman, rule 13, sub-section 4, which declares that the rules of the House be observed in Committee of the Whole House, so far as may be applicable, except as relates to the seconding of motions and the limiting of the number of times of speaking. It is admitted by all that the previous question can be moved when the Speaker is in the Chair. If you follow me so far, you cannot but agree that the previous question can be moved in Committee of the Whole House. Then we come to the resolution which states that a motion for the previous question shall always be debatable. If I am right in the statements I have made, and there can be no doubt about it, surely this question is debatable when the previous question is moved. It necessarily becomes debatable.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Question.

The CHAIRMAN: On this question—

Mr. GUTHRIE: Just a moment, I have looked as carefully as I can through the third edition of Bourinot's Parliamentary Procedure, and I have not been able to find the authorities to which my hon. friend (Mr. Meighen) referred.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Will my hon. friend look again at page 525?

The CHAIRMAN: At the bottom of page 524.

Mr. GUTHRIE: At the bottom of page 524 it says:

By reference to the Senate rules it will be seen that the motion for the previous ques-