

the inquiries. I was later informed that the honourable gentleman had refused to correct them.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: That is a strange admission, that the highest authority in this House takes his inspiration from a servant of the House—a very strange admission.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: We read in Bourinot's Parliamentary Procedure, Fourth Edition, page 313:

The Canadian practice is identical with that of the English Commons... No argumentative matter shall be introduced, and if such matter appears it is always struck out by the clerks at the Table, by the order of the Speaker. It is the duty of the clerk to point out any irregularity to the Speaker, as in the case of notices of motion, and if the latter is of the same opinion he will order the clerk to communicate with the member, so that he may have an opportunity of amending his notice.

That is what has been done. In May's Parliamentary Practice, Twelfth Edition, page 223:

The purpose of a question is to obtain information, and not to supply it to the House. A question may not contain statements of facts, unless they be necessary to make the question intelligible, and can be authenticated; nor should a question contain arguments, expressions of opinion, inferences, or imputations. The expression of an opinion or the solution of an abstract legal case; or of a hypothetical proposition, cannot be sought for by a question.

Denison's and Brand's Decisions, 1857-1884, page 255:

A question relative to matters outside the House, and bearing upon any matter before the House, cannot be put.

Also on page 262:

The Speaker has the power to direct that the language of a question be changed, if it seems to him unbecoming.

I find also in Peel's Decisions, House of Commons, 1884-1895—

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: I do not dispute any of those authorities.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: I have no objection at all to the inquiries appearing on the Order Paper provided they are made in proper form.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: If His Honour the Speaker will point it out to me, I will immediately correct any word or phrase or clause in the questions. I have said I do not object to the authorities cited by the honourable the Speaker, for the very good reason that I know and respect the rules.

The Hon. the SPEAKER,

I do not state any facts; I am simply asking for information:

Is the Government aware that its recruiting officers are kidnapping school boys and inducing them to enlist for overseas military service on behalf of the Allies in the present war?

That is simply asking for information.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: The second question, paragraph 3, reads:

If so, why not utilize their powers and their services in this secondary capacity?

That is offering advice to the authorities, which the honourable gentleman has not the right to do in an inquiry. In paragraph 2 of the first question the honourable gentleman states:

As an illustration and example, is the Government aware that its recruiting officer, Roy Anderson—

and so forth. In that he is stating a fact, which he has not the right to do.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: How can I get an answer to the question as to whether the fact is true or not if I do not state the fact that a certain officer is doing a certain thing?

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Order. The honourable gentleman has no right to discuss the matter.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: I am not discussing it; I am going to accept your correction, and I will move that the words "as an illustration and example" be struck out, and that in the second question, "If so, why not utilize their powers and their services in this secondary capacity," be struck out.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: I would ask the honourable gentleman to take these inquiries and make the necessary corrections.

REPORTED WRECK OF THE CRUISER RAINBOW.

Before the Orders of the Day:

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: I should like to call the attention of the honourable the leader of the Government to an item in the Daily Colonist of Victoria, B.C., of 12th June, 1917. It reads as follows:

Local shipping men were much amazed to read the following news item in The Sunday Seattle Times under the heading, "Former Cruiser Strikes on Reef." The steamship Eva Marie referred to is in reality a small wooden freighter owned by Capt. V. Jacobsen, of Victoria. She was at one time called the Rainbow and was recently wrecked. Of course the naval authorities and a few others know where the