

laid upon the table for general information. Such papers form no part of the records of the house but are retained in the custody of the Clerk of the house for the purposes indicated and returned to the proper authorities afterwards.

I think that may clear up the point raised.

There is just one other matter to which I wish to refer. It is regarding my motion for Monday. In the printing of the *Votes and Proceedings* of to-day there was a misprint as they were issued in the first instance. The motion appeared:

The Prime Minister—On Friday next—That this house will aid the government in its policy of maintaining a vigorous war.

Through some error the word "effort" was not printed in the first copies. I am afraid these copies were distributed and were used by the press. The omission was corrected in a subsequent issue. The *Votes and Proceedings* as I have them here and as they were reprinted when the error was discovered makes it clear that the resolution is:

That this house will aid the government in its policy of maintaining a vigorous war effort.

Mr. GRAYDON: The Clerk was good enough to correct it for me.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: And then there is the resolution about sitting on Saturday.

Mr. COLDWELL: On the point of order raised by the Prime Minister, may I say that we find it sometimes very difficult to follow these rules. If I turn to the second edition of Beauchesne's *Parliamentary Rules and Forms* at page 104 and I read a citation from May 316 I find the following:

It has been admitted that a document which has been cited ought to be laid upon the table of the house, if it can be done without injury to the public interest. The same rule, however, cannot be held to apply to private letters or memoranda. On the 18th May, 1865, the attorney-general, on being asked by Mr. Ferrard if he would lay upon the table a written statement and a letter to which he had referred on a previous day, in assuming a question relative to the Leeds Bankruptcy Court, replied that he had made a statement to the House upon his own responsibility, and that the documents he had referred to being private, he could not lay them upon the table. Lord Robert Cecil contended that the papers, having been cited, should be produced; but the Speaker declared that this rule applied to public documents only.

This was a private document to which my hon. friend referred. Apparently in the books you can find citations to prove anything.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King the house adjourned at 11.20 p.m.

Friday, November 24, 1944

The house met at three o'clock.

PRIVILEGE—MR. POULIOT

Mr. JEAN-FRANÇOIS POULIOT (Témiscouata): Mr. Speaker, from one of the last seats in the last row I rise to a question of privilege. I have been described by the press as an independent. An independent I have been during my whole political career. Saturday of next week will mark the twentieth anniversary of my election to the House of Commons for the county of Témiscouata, which I still represent. Sir, I have not changed. I am still a Liberal, as I have always been.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. SPEAKER: I wish the hon. member would come to his question of privilege. My understanding was that yesterday he explained his position. Now he is repeating it. I would ask the hon. member to state his question of privilege.

Mr. POULIOT: Yes. But yesterday I only expressed my regret at leaving my seat. Now I am saying why I am here.

Some hon. MEMBERS: No, no.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: There is no question of privilege in that.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that is hardly a question of privilege.

Mr. POULIOT: Then if you will permit me, sir, I will go further and cite a precedent; it was when the hon. member for Gaspé (Mr. Roy) was permitted to give his reasons for leaving the Conservative party some years ago. On that occasion he was listened to by the Chair. Now, sir, my point is that my Liberalism is a very definite doctrine, which may be entirely different from so-called Liberal policies.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The hon. member is himself a student of parliamentary procedure, and he knows that what he now states, while it may be a matter for explanation to the house on another occasion, is not a question of privilege.

Mr. POULIOT: Then I will give it to the press, if they will take it.

PRIVILEGE—Mr. LaCROIX

Mr. WILFRID LaCROIX (Quebec-Montmorency) (Translation): I desire to state before this house that I am leaving the government side, where I have always sat while