

Mr. MACLEAN (Halifax).—I would like to enquire now if the statements made by the witness and by his counsel are open for discussion. I would like to know if every Hon. Member except the Hon. Member for North Grey is precluded from discussing this matter.

Mr. Middlebro moved, seconded by Mr. Meighen,

That the witness retire until the House has considered the matter put before it.

Mr. Pugsley moved in amendment, thereto, seconded by Mr. Emmerson,

That all the words after the word "That" be struck out and the following be substituted therefor:—

"Mr. Miller and his Counsel be allowed to remain at the Bar of this House until the Honourable Member for North Grey has had an opportunity of informing the House as to whether the statement made by Mr. Harvey, that, Mr. Miller had not given before the Committee on Public Accounts the evidence which the question put to the witness by Mr. Speaker alleges he gave, is correct."

And objection being taken, that the amendment is not an amendment, but a direct negative, and out of order. Mr. Speaker stated: I think, considering this amendment, and having regard to the strict procedure, May has laid it down that a direct negative to a question is not an amendment to a question, though it may be covered up by verbiage. Guided by that, I rule this amendment out of order.

Mr. Pugsley then appealed from the ruling of the Chair.

Mr. Speaker said: Shall the ruling of the Chair be sustained by the House?

And the question being put, the ruling of the Speaker was sustained.

The question on the main motion being put; it was agreed to.

The witness then withdrew, in custody of the Acting Sergeant-at-Arms.

Mr. Middlebro moved, seconded by Mr. Meighen,

That it be resolved, That this House, having considered the statements made by Mr. R. C. Miller and his Counsel, at the Bar of this House, on the 18th and 20th days of February, instant, hereby declares such statements to be no answer to the question put to him by Mr. Speaker on said dates, and that his refusal to answer said question constitutes a breach of the privileges of Parliament, and renders the said Mr. R. C. Miller guilty of contempt of this House, and this House doth order and adjudge that the said Mr. R. C. Miller be forthwith, by the Sergeant-at-Arms, committed to and imprisoned in the Common Jail of the County of Carleton, situated in the City of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario, until the prorogation of this House, or until sooner released therefrom by the Order of this House; and the keeper or other officer in charge of the said Jail is hereby authorized to receive the said Mr. R. C. Miller into his custody accordingly, and that Mr. Speaker do forthwith issue his warrant therefor accordingly.

And objection being taken that the proposed motion cannot be considered by the House unless two days' notice be given.

Mr. Speaker ruled, That the point of order was not well taken.

And the question being put on the main motion; it was agreed to on a division.

On motion of Mr. Borden, seconded by Mr. Doherty,

Ordered, That the Witness Mr. R. C. Miller, be brought to the Bar of the House in order that the Judgment of the House which has been just passed may be communicated to him.

The Acting Sergeant-at-Arms: Mr. Speaker, the witness, Mr. R. C. Miller, is now in attendance at the doors of this Honourable House.

Mr. Speaker.—Admit the witness.

Mr. Miller again came before the Bar of the House.