

As to the first paragraph I do not suppose there can be any division of opinion in the committee. His Honour the Speaker made recommendations with respect to these three servants of the House, Mr. Garneau, Mr. Chas. Larose and Miss O'Brien. Those recommendations were based on reports from the Clerk of the Senate, and are concurred in and approved of by the committee. As a matter of convenience it would be better to take up the report clause by clause. I therefore move that the first clause be concurred in.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—If the committee find it a duty to concur in one-third or one-fourth, or one-half the recommendations of the Speaker, I do not see why they did not endorse other recommendations which he has made to this honourable House. The adoption of this report piecemeal is not fair to His Honour the Speaker. It is not fair to him, because the committee accept certain of his recommendations and reject others. I hold that the Senate should stand by the dignity of the Senate—I will not say the Speaker, for he is to be here for only two or three days. He is not standing for his personal rights merely; he has been demanding respect for the right of the Chair under the law. The committee comes here with a halfway measure, in a picayune way, and says to the Speaker, "Well, you are right with regard to three recommendations, and wrong with regard to others." That is no way to deal with the Chair. I regret that this House has not been able to appreciate the stand which the Speaker has made with regard to the rights of the Senate. It has been treated as a personal matter, more or less. As I stated on a former occasion, I am no political friend of the Speaker, but I am with him in regard to law, and if he is right in regard to some of these recommendations, he must be right in regard to the balance, according to law.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—My impression is that the suggestion made by the hon. gentleman from Halifax is a correct one; more particularly when there is a portion of the report which the House may approve of. To move the adoption of the report en bloc would compel one to vote against the report because he did not approve of one particular paragraph though approving of the others. I intended to make the suggestion myself that the report be considered clause by clause. I am speaking for myself merely,

but others may be of the same opinion. I concur in the first two paragraphs; I have objections to the third paragraph. When it comes up for consideration it can be discussed and rejected or approved.

The motion was agreed to, and the first paragraph was adopted.

Hon. Mr. POWER—The second paragraph reads as follows:—

2. That the recommendations with respect to Mr. C. H. Jones and Mr. Byron Nicholson, be adopted, provided that such adoption shall not be held to constitute a precedent.

I may say that this paragraph is, to a certain extent, in conflict with the previous action of the House, but the members of the committee were so anxious to promote harmony in conducting the business of the House, that even though they had some doubt as to the complete propriety of their course, they made this recommendation. I move that the second paragraph be concurred in.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK—Before that motion is put I want to deal with the question I raised this morning. If hon. gentlemen will look at page 416 of the Minutes they will find that when the sixth report of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy was adopted, the sixth paragraph of that report read as follows:—

That Mr. Siméon Lelièvre, second clerk as assistant, act as clerk of petitions and clerk of the Committee on Standing Orders.

That report was adopted by the Senate. The recommendation with which this present report deals, which was put before the House by the previous Speaker and which appears on page 452 of the Minutes says:—

1. That Mr. C. H. Jones, clerk, succeed Mr. Soutter, superannuated, and in addition to his present duties, take charge of the minutes.

Now I understand that Mr. Jones at present is Clerk of Petitions and Clerk of the Committee of Standing Orders. Therefore, if we accept this paragraph of the report of the committee we will be appointing two clerks to do the same work. We have already appointed Mr. Siméon Lelièvre to do that work, and we are now asked to appoint Mr. Jones to do the same work. If it is the desire of the House that the sixth report of the committee should be altered so that we can adopt this paragraph, then I submit that under our rules we ought to give notice and rescind the sixth paragraph of that report of the Internal Economy Committee already adopted by the Senate.