

not be the intention of the Act, nor could it have been the wish or understanding of Parliament when the Act was passed. Rule 102 of the House afforded material assistance in the interpretation of the Statute. It could not be objected that that rule was framed before the passage of this Act, and, therefore, that the words "the Speaker" in it must be held to mean only the Speaker while he held the position during the existence of Parliament. The word "Speaker" must refer to the Speaker during the interim of Parliament as well as to the Speaker in full possession of all the powers and privileges conferred by his election. Thus there was not the slightest word to show that the authority, which this rule recognised in the Speaker, did not pertain to him after the dissolution of Parliament, and until the assembling of a new one. The rule referred to said :

"Before filling any vacancy in the service of the House by the Speaker, enquiry shall be made touching the necessity for the continuance of such office; and the amount of salary to be attached to the same shall be fixed by the Speaker, subject to the approval of the House."

That, he thought, plainly referred to the Speaker at all times while he was Speaker. The Commissioners of Internal Economy had not the slightest authority to interfere with these appointments. The authority to make appointments was vested in the Speaker alone, and the Commissioners of Internal Economy under our Statute did not enjoy the power held by the Commissioners under the Imperial Statutes. They were only authorised to guard and protect the funds appropriated by Parliament, and to see that these were properly expended. The money was drawn by them from the Treasury, placed to their credit, and payable to their order, and they saw to its proper expenditure. These were the entire duties they had to discharge—the entire extent of the rights, powers and authority conferred on them by the Statute. He had no doubt that, at times since the passing of this Statute, the Speaker had taken the advice of the members of the Commission, who under the Statute must always be members of the Government, more especially when any change he thought necessary was calculated in any

way to add to the public expenditure. During his (Mr. Anglin's) incumbency of the office, he in no one case had added to the public expenditure without consulting the Commissioners. Generally, after each Session, they met for a slight review of the service, and whenever any important change was made it was with their approval and sanction. But he never thought he was required by law to consult those gentlemen in any way. In many instances he acted entirely on his own judgment. He felt that he should not throw upon the Commissioners any responsibility which, under the rules of the House, he was himself expected to bear. To come to the matter which he desired to bring more immediately under the consideration of the House, he would say that, during the recent general elections, two gentlemen in the employment of the House chose to resign their positions, in order, he believed, to become candidates for the representation of some portion of the Dominion in this House. One of those gentlemen was a member of this House, and he thought it must be a matter of pride to the Department to which he belonged, as well as to himself, that that gentleman had already assumed so excellent and distinguished a position in the House. The other gentlemen had failed to gain his election. The resignation of one of these gentlemen, Mr. Tassé, was forwarded to him when he was busy canvassing in his own county. He at once accepted that resignation, as he did not wish to place anything in the way of his (Mr. Tassé's) becoming a candidate. When the elections were over, being in the habit of frequent communication with the Clerk of the House respecting the necessities of the Department, he received from him a communication representing that it was of the very greatest importance to the public service that the places vacated by these gentlemen should be filled. It was the Clerk's opinion, as it was his (Mr. Anglin's) still, that this application was made to the proper authority, and, indeed, the only person competent to make any such appointment. He made further inquiry regarding the matter, and the Clerk forwarded to him, at his request, a report on the whole subject obtained from Mr. Cour-