

Mr. FLEMING: Having regard to Mr. Low's motion, what is contemplated with respect to the bill that has been referred to us? Is it contemplated that we should report to the House with the recommendation for adoption or otherwise?

Mr. Low: No. This simply means reporting the matter of the bill back to the House as not having had sufficient time to give the whole matter thorough consideration, and therefore that it be held over until next session.

Mr. FLEMING: That the bill be not adopted at this session?

Mr. Low: Yes. That is what it comes to.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, as it is practically 1 o'clock—

Mr. COLDWELL: I was just going to say—without discussing the merits or demerits—that the reference in the motion should be to the bill which is referred to us, should it not?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. It is practically 1 o'clock, gentlemen, I should like to refer this motion to the clerk of the committee to make sure that it is in order before any time would be spent on it. Therefore if it is the wish of the committee, we will now adjourn until 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Agreed.

The committee adjourned at 1 o'clock p.m. to meet again at 4 p.m. this day.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

The committee resumed at 4 p.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, a motion was made to the committee shortly before 1 o'clock, and as I was in doubt as to whether the motion was in order, you will recall that I reserved decision on it for the purpose of referring the motion to the proper authorities. I have done that, and I should now like to read the ruling, if I may. It is as follows.

The motion before the committee is as follows:

Mr. Low moves seconded by Mr. Blackmore,

Inasmuch as the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce has not had sufficient time and opportunity to examine competent witnesses, and to study thoroughly the purposes, objectives, implications and possible penalties for failure of the Bretton Woods Agreements; and inasmuch as it has not been established that Canada would be well advised to ratify the Agreements, and, finally because the members of this committee have not yet had time nor opportunity fully to discharge their responsibilities to the people of Canada, therefore,

That this committee now rise and report to the House recommending that Bill 238 be not proceeded with during the present session of parliament, and that the said measure be again introduced at the next session of parliament and referred to the committee on Banking and Commerce early enough to provide time and opportunity for the most thorough study and examination of the whole of the Bretton Woods proposals:

In Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms, Third Edition, 1943, at page 197, note 537, it is stated as follows:

537. A committee can only consider these matters which have been committed to it by the House.

A committee is bound by, and is not at liberty to depart from, the order of reference. (B.469).

That is a reference in the Beauchesne paragraph. It continues:—

In the case of a select committee upon a bill, the bill committed to it is itself the order of reference to the committee, who must report it with or without amendment to the House.