

Mr. CAMERON. The question I submit is the question of the right of the hon. member to move this Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER. There appears to be no question about that right. May says:

"Though a member interested is disqualified from voting, he is not restrained, by any existing rule of the House, from proposing a motion or amendment. On the 26th July, 1859, Mr. Whalley moved an amendment to a clause added by the Lords to a railway Bill, in which he admitted that he was personally interested. In the debate, exception was taken to such an amendment having been proposed by a member having a pecuniary interest; but the Speaker ruled that though it was a well-known rule of the House, that a member under such circumstances could not be permitted to vote, and though the course adopted was certainly most unusual, yet there was no rule by which the right of a member to make a motion was restrained, and he had been given to understand that Mr. Whalley did not intend to vote."

Mr. CAMERON. Allow me to call attention to a rule passed in 1858, which reads as follows:—

"That it is contrary to the usage, and derogatory to the dignity of this House, that any of its members should bring forward, promote or advocate in this House, any proceeding or measure in which he may have acted or been concerned, for or in consideration of any fee or reward."

Let me also call your attention to a statement of May:

"It has also been declared contrary to the law or usage of Parliament for any member to be engaged, either by himself or any partner, in the management of private Bills, before this or the other House of Parliament, for pecuniary reward."

The point I make is that if the hon. gentleman—I do not say it is a fact—is the solicitor of the Canadian Pacific Railway, although he has no pecuniary interest in this Bill, yet as the paid solicitor of the Company he is not in a position to promote it in Parliament.

Mr. SPEAKER. He has no right to vote upon it, but according to the authority I have read, he is not restrained from proposing a motion or amendment.

Mr. CAMERON. But you will permit me to say that that is not my point at all.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Chair, Chair; order, order.

Mr. CAMERON. That is not the point I am submitting at all, Mr. Speaker. I quite admit that a member interested in legislation has possibly a right to move a motion or amendment with reference to it in the House, possibly a right to discuss it, but no right to vote. But I mean to say that a professional man, who has been engaged professionally outside the House in connection with a matter of legislation, has no right to promote that measure in the House, and the rule of 1858 was intended to cover that class of cases. It arose in this way. There were complaints in the public papers that professional men in England had been engaged in advocating the claims of certain Indian princes. These professional men were also members of Parliament, and the interests which they represented outside they also advocated in Parliament. This rule was made to cover that class of cases; and according to it, a professional man, so situated, has no right to advocate in Parliament any matter of business in which he has an interest outside of Parliament.

Mr. SPEAKER. If the hon. member raises a question of privilege, he must conclude with a motion. That is just where the difficulty is. When an hon. member objects to another hon. member moving a Bill at any stage, he is raising a question of privilege that ought to be raised as a distinct question, and that ought to conclude with a motion; and when an hon. member brings forward a question of privilege, the motion to which he alludes should be relevant thereto.

Mr. MACKENZIE. But you do not propose that a member should make a motion to decide a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER. No; if there is no motion made I decide there is nothing to show that a member is disqualified from

moving a measure because he has a pecuniary interest in it, although he is prevented from voting.

Mr. CAMERON. My object, Mr. Speaker, in calling attention to this matter, was to enable the hon. member to state in his place in the House whether he comes within the class of cases mentioned by me as coming under the rule passed in 1858. I stated, when I rose, that my information was derived from the public press, and I asked if that information was correct, because if it was, the hon. gentleman was not capable of promoting this legislation.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Chair, Chair.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I rise to order. The hon. gentleman has spoken three or four times—

Mr. CAMERON. I have a perfect right to.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Whenever there is a decision of the Speaker, and any hon. member chooses to dispute it, he must appeal from that decision without debate.

Mr. CAMERON. I am not disputing the ruling of the Speaker.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Chair, Chair.

Mr. CAMERON. I want to know what the ruling is.

Mr. SPEAKER. I decide from May, page 389, of the edition of 1879, that although a member who is interested is disqualified from voting, he is not disqualified by any existing rule of the House from proposing a motion or amendment. Therefore, so far as I can see, the hon. member is not disqualified from moving this motion.

Mr. ABBOTT. I move that you do now leave the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER. Shall this motion be adopted.

Mr. CASGRAIN. The hour for private Bills is up. It is the standing rule that one hour after the evening sitting is dedicated specially to private Bills. That hour is now over, and as I have on the paper some measure in which I am interested, I claim the privilege of coming, in my turn when the time is over.

Mr. SPEAKER. If the hour for private Bills is used up, then the House must proceed to other business on the paper. As I told the hon. gentleman who was speaking on a question of personal explanation, he was taking up the time devoted to private Bills.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). Mr. Speaker, you only took the Chair at 8:20.

Mr. SPEAKER. Whether I took the Chair at ten or fifteen minutes past eight, makes no difference. The Bill will be talked out in any case.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). I would like to ask whether we are to understand that it will be the rule hereafter that the hour for private Bills means up to nine o'clock, for if the Chair is only taken at 8:20, that only leaves us 40 minutes.

Mr. SPEAKER. The hour dates from the hour I take the Chair, and if I only took the chair at 8:20, the hour is not yet expired. There are still ten minutes left.

Mr. CASGRAIN. I maintain that I am not wrong in claiming that the hour is over. If it is not over, as you have just mentioned, it will soon be over. What is the question before the Chair? I maintain that the position I have taken is correct and I intend to prove it to you in the five minutes not yet elapsed.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Speak French.

Mr. CASGRAIN (Translation). I am called upon to speak French and I will do it with great pleasure. I trust it will be in my power to show in a clear and distinct manner—

Some hon. MEMBERS. English.