

accident which prevented him from working, and he left shortly afterwards. That left His Honour the Speaker and myself. This work had been imposed upon us, and I thought it was better that we should do it in some way; and even though the work has not been done in the strictly regular way, it is before the Senate, and the Senate can do as they wish. We have done our duty. I feel that if I had failed to act, and His Honour the Speaker had failed to act, in a certain sense we should not have done our duty. But we have done our duty, and now the Senate can do its duty.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—We have no report. The duty of the committee was not done in the regular way. The hon. gentleman from Brandon told the hon. gentleman from Halifax to go on with the business. He went on with the business in a very irregular way. Another meeting of the committee should have been called and a new sub-committee appointed.

Hon. Mr. POWER—This is a report of two members of the sub-committee, and the Senate can deal with it. Any member of the House can move any resolution he pleases as long as there is nothing disloyal or improper about it, and if the hon. gentleman thinks the sub-committee was not acting legally, we can act as individuals and the Senate can adopt our action or not as they please. I move that this report be adopted.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—It is not a report of the sub-committee, and I ask for a ruling.

The SPEAKER—I never understood that the Speaker could be called upon to decide if a report had been properly or improperly drawn. I do not believe it is within the jurisdiction of the Speaker to decide that. In my opinion, the only thing to be done in the present case, if the hon. gentleman thinks that the report has not been properly drawn, or is not properly before the House, is for him to object to the adoption of the report, and the Senate is at liberty to adopt or reject it. The hon. gentleman has the report in his hands and may take that course if he desires, but I do not believe that I have the right to decide that this report is not a report.

Hon. Mr. GOWAN—I second the motion of my hon. friend from Halifax, quite un-

derstanding the manner in which the report was prepared. The sub-committee endeavoured to obtain a majority of that committee to make a report, but could not do so. It would be most ungracious and unreasonable—I was going to say improper—to hesitate one moment in accepting the report.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—The hon. gentleman has said that it is most improper to refuse to accept the report. I am insisting on a right, and I do not think any hon. gentleman is justified in challenging my right.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I challenge the hon. gentleman's right to speak again.

Hon. Mr. DEBOUCHERVILLE—I move the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—Before the motion for adjournment is carried, I desire to call the attention of the House to this report, or what is called a report, but which is not a report at all, made by two members of the House. I approve of the ruling that has been given, because I presume that the Speaker of this House felt himself interested in the question and would not like to give a direct ruling.

The SPEAKER—I ask the privilege of being allowed to answer that statement. I do not insist on the report. I have nothing to do with it. It was signed and I thought it was my duty to acquiesce in it, but I would not like the hon. gentleman to think I would not give a proper decision because I was interested.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I am saying that that would not be a reason for withholding a decision. I am in accord with what the Speaker says. I am perfectly convinced that it would not be a reason to prevent the Speaker giving a proper decision. Take the report, and what do we find that the hon. gentleman from Halifax, the future minister, did, in reference to it? Not only did he select a uniform which is described in the pretended report, but he makes a distinction between the messengers. He did what he had no right to do, because if he is regularly appointed to do a specific duty he must stick to the obligations that are imposed on him, and the instructions that are given to him in