

by voting. I should like to ask His Honour the Speaker whether I am correct in that view. Is it not the rule that every member present must vote, Mr. Speaker?

Hon. Mr. COPP: While His Honour the Speaker is looking up the point raised by my honourable friend, I might say to him, if he is offering criticism as to why I did not vote, that when I was in the other House, if a pair was made with a friend on the other side of the House I always took particular care to observe it. The other day my honourable friend from Westmoreland (Hon. Mr. Black) told me he was going away, and asked me if I would pair with him on any vote coming before the House. I was very glad to do so, and I have kept faith with my honourable friend, as I promised. I may be somewhat green or unlearned in the rules of this House, and if I have committed a breach of etiquette of the Senate I apologize to His Honour the Speaker and to my honourable friend.

Hon. Mr. DANIEL: I think you have.

Hon. Mr. GORDON: Before His Honour the Speaker gives his ruling, I should like to say that my honourable friend from St. John (Hon. Mr. Daniel), while he looked over at the member from Westmoreland (Hon. Mr. Copp), meant to give his desk-mate a little dig because he did not vote. I am sorry that I did not have the excuse of having a pair, but my case is one of ignorance, for I came in too late to hear the latter part of the speech of the honourable member from North York (Hon. Sir Allen Aylesworth), and, as I happened to be busily engaged, I could not give this matter the thought that it deserved. As a consequence I felt that I should not vote.

Hon. Mr. DANIEL: I would ask my honourable friend if he did not read the Bill, and form an opinion based on that reading.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Honourable gentlemen, I would say that Rule 52 reads as follows:

52. If two senators require it, the "Contents" and "Non-Contents" are entered upon the minutes: provided the Senate shall not have taken up other business; and each senator shall vote on the question, openly and without debate; unless for special reasons he be excused by the Senate.

Then our Rule 54 says:

54. A senator, declining to vote, shall assign reasons therefor; and the Speaker shall submit to the Senate the question,—“Shall the Senator, for the reasons assigned by him, be excused from voting?”

I understand that the honourable senator has assigned a reason for not voting, and the

question is whether he is to be excused for that reason.

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: What happens if he is not excused?

The Hon. the SPEAKER: He has to vote.

Hon. Mr. GRIESBACH: The trouble is that the vote has been already taken. How can you judge him or deal with him then? Surely there is something wrong with that rule.

Hon. Mr. DANIEL: Provide a motion excusing this honourable gentleman from voting.

Hon. Mr. BUREAU: I would ask His Honour the Speaker how the vote is recorded in the Chamber when the Speaker is in the Chair. I thought that under the rules a standing vote was taken only when the House was in Committee of the Whole.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: For the information of the honourable gentleman I might read our whole procedure. On the second reading of a Bill:

71. Should the words "Not Content" be heard, the Speaker says: "The Contents will please rise," and judging to the best of his knowledge, says: "The Contents" or "Non-Contents have it," adding, "the motion is lost," or "Carried:" "Read the Bill" or "Call the next Order."

72. If the "Yeas" and "Nays" are called for, the Speaker says: "The Yeas and Nays being called for by two Senators, the Contents will please rise;" their names having been taken down; the Non-Contents are then called upon to rise, and their names being also taken down, the Clerk then reads from the Division List, thus: "Contents 25; Non-contents 18," or vice versa, and the Speaker says: "The Contents," or "The Non-Contents have it."

There are three methods of dealing with a vote in the Senate. First of all, the Contents may be asked to rise, and then the Non-Contents, and they need not be counted. The second method is that the Yeas and Nays are called for, and they rise and are counted, and then the Clerk, as he did on this occasion, gives the result to the House. The third method is that if the words "Call in the Senators" are heard, the Speaker rises and, addressing the Sergeant at Arms, says, "Call in the Senators." I have proceeded according to the regular form.

Hon. Mr. COPP: I may escape by this ruling.

SASKATCHEWAN ELECTION

On the motion to adjourn:

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: I should like to inquire if the Government is aware that there was a provincial election in Saskatchewan yesterday,