

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I submit it is out of order for the hon. gentleman to refer to the fact that he and others have served under the present occupant of the office of Governor General overseas. It seems to me that is introducing most decidedly the personal element and I think it is out of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: I interrupted the hon. minister when he was mentioning that fact, because introducing the name of the Governor General in that regard is, according to authority, using the name of the crown, or of the office of the Governor General of the Dominion, to influence the opinion of parliament. To that I strongly object.

Mr. MANION: I will make no more references to the Governor General, except to say that I am not very much surprised at the attitude my hon. friend takes, because it is an extraordinary attitude to my mind, and he takes extraordinary attitudes very often. It is an extraordinary attitude for anybody to take that on the 1st day of July, Dominion Day, we should not pay a tribute to the Governor General of this country.

Mr. CANNON: I rise to a point of order.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I ask your ruling, Mr. Speaker. Was I in order in raising a point of order a moment ago?

Some hon. MEMBERS: No, no.

Mr. CANNON: On the point of order raised by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, I think the Speaker has been perfectly correct in saying that the hon. member (Mr. Manion) should not drag the name of the Governor General into our debates. I spoke for about an hour and did not mention the crown once, and the rule is very well known that in no debate are we to try to influence members of the House by even mentioning the crown.

Mr. MANION: I think my hon. friend should have directed his remarks to his leader and not to me. As far as I am concerned, I do not want to carry on this part of the discussion further, but I wish to point out, before I come to the quotation, that the right hon. gentleman who is Prime Minister had only twenty-four hours in which to place himself in a position to carry on the business of the country. My right hon. friend, who led the party which preceded this party in power, had from October 29, to January 7 to form his administration, and the administration came into the House without the Prime Minister in his seat, and not only without the Prime Minister in his seat, but

without a seat of any kind, a Prime Minister who had to leave his own native province to hunt up a seat in a western province.

The right hon. gentleman quoted Keith volume 1, on Responsible Government in the Dominions. I have read the volume and remember parts of it. He stopped quoting from Keith at a certain point, and I took the opportunity of looking it up. I wish now to discuss the abstract question in regard to the rights of the Governor General in refusing dissolution and I submit I am quite in order as the whole discussion has been around that point. He quoted Keith at page 181. He stopped quoting just before a paragraph which says:

The question of dissolution always, from the nature of the case, presents the governor with a possibility of differing from his ministers with success; it necessarily implies the existence in the colony of two parties, of which one is in possession of the government, but the other has been successful in driving them to appeal to the people. The governor has therefore a difficult task, not merely in deciding to refuse to accept ministerial advice but in deciding to accept it; for the fact that the prerogative is not expected as a matter of course to be used as the ministry advises prevents him from sheltering behind the advice of his ministers. If he acts on their advice he may easily find himself quite as unpopular as if he had refused to do so, and indeed the governor is expected to do what is best for the country, a course by no means normally at all simple or easy.

There are two important facts which the governor must consider in granting or refusing a dissolution. In the first place, the duration of colonial parliaments is brief,

An hon. MEMBER: Colonial parliaments?

Mr. MANION: Yes. Well I will come to some dominion parliaments.

Then he must remember—

Mr. ELLIOTT: Does the hon. member think that that clause referring to colonial parliaments applies in that sense?

Mr. MANION: No, I believe Canada is a dominion. I think perhaps I am as good a believer in Canada as my hon. friend. Keith continues:

Then he must remember that the shortness of parliament, and the important work that has to be done, render a dissolution to be avoided if possible, for the waste of time, expense, and dislocation of a general election, if less serious in themselves than the same features in this country, are equally important to a smaller community. Moreover, there is growing stronger and stronger the feeling, in Australia—

Nobody will dispute that Australia is not a colony.

—in Australia at least, that a dissolution does wrong to the members of parliament, who thus are not merely put to trouble and expense, though election expenses