

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It would be necessary to make a re-organization of all the staff. The House of Commons has not done it yet, but they will do it after the Bill is passed. They were satisfied it was all right.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—My contention is that a resolution will not meet the requirements. All the heads of the department, with an order in council, can do is to place within certain divisions herein named officers placed in entirely different positions from the clerks or officers of the other departments. There is no parallel case. They have certain social status at state functions, and, in my judgment invoking the Act would put them down in subdivision B as to Black Rod and the second division as to the Sergeant at Arms.

Hon. Mr. POWER—Does the hon. gentleman not think that, under clause 8, the House can deal with that matter? In our case the Speaker will be head of the department; he will cause the organization of the staff of this House to be defined, not by an order in council but by an order of the Senate. It strikes me that this clause would authorize His Honour the Speaker, acting under a resolution of this House, to practically re-organize the staff. I understood that our Committee on Internal Economy has been summoned to meet to-morrow, chiefly for the purpose of preparing a scheme under which our officials and employees will come under the Act. The idea is that the Contingent Committee shall pass the resolution with speed and that in order to come within the terms of the Act at the next session the Senate will ratify what is done at the close of this session.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE—I understand it is a question of precedence. May I suggest, to cover the point, the addition of the words, 'with respect to attendances of this House,' &c.

It will require some additional words in order to maintain the order of precedence of the officers to which the attention of the Senate has been called. It seems to me clause 8 refers only to the organization only of the department of the Senate and could not in any way affect the status of the clerk, the Usher of the Black Rod or

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the Sergeant at Arms. Unless there was some other clause providing for that particular clerk. The clause clearly refers to the organisation of a department and not to the status of its officials, whoever they may be, in case of state functions or of anything of that kind. The clause reads very clearly. It seems to me to refer exclusively to the organization of the Senate and not to the precedence of its officials.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—My hon. friend the Secretary of State will know whether it is the intention of the Senate that this resolution should be passed before the Act comes in force.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The Act will not be in force before September.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—Whatever is done should be done before prorogation.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The usual course is to have a recommendation from the Contingent Accounts Committee.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—It is better to let this clause stand until that is done.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I would suggest that they have a meeting to deal with it now.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—It must be done by resolution of the Senate.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—On a report of the committee.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—Then it would be better to let this clause stand until that report comes in.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—How could the Senate act before the Bill is sanctioned?

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—This Bill will be sanctioned when prorogation takes place, and then we cannot act.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Let the committee report what they think proper, giving the salary and status of each official, and that will be subject to the approval of the Speaker, and may be confirmed by resolution of the House in advance. There is no one to take exception to it.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—The Speaker continues in office until dissolution, of course.