

Hon. Sir GEORGE ROSS (Middlesex)—Does that mean that only the one committee on Standing Orders has power to send for papers, and the other committees will have to obtain permission from the House if they desire to send for papers.

The SPEAKER—Yes.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—I understand the motion made just now is to cover all committees of the House?

Hon. Mr. POWER—Yes

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—The hon. leader of the government informed me the other day when I was questioning his right to name the striking committee that I could discuss the matter when the motion would be made for the adoption of their report, as is being done now. The attitude assumed by several senators on that occasion is one which I still endorse, but I am sorry to say it was not endorsed by the hon. leader of the opposition, as I think it should have been. The senators who acted with me on that matter were not dealing in child's play at all, but were very serious, and wished to know why the striking committee should have been appointed by the minority of this House. I desire to know the names of the hon. gentlemen placed on the committees. I want to know if there are what we call dead members on live committees. I refer to the Railway Committee, the Committee on Banking and Commerce, and committees of that class as live committees. For the past ten years I have been on a dead committee and do not desire to remain there.

Hon. Mr. McSWEENEY—What committee is that?

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—The Printing Committee. The hon. gentleman from New Brunswick (Hon. Mr. McSweeney) is one of the examples to whom I alluded the other day; he is in constant attendance and is never put upon a committee, and there are others in the same position. I want to know why I was left off the Railway Committee last year and if I am dropped this year.

Hon. Mr. DERBYSHIRE—The hon. gentleman is not on the committee this year.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Is it because I am too wide awake to the doings of the committee in discussing railway Bills and because I am considered an obstacle in their way? If that is the case then there is going to be trouble whether I am on the committee or not. I believe that is the case and I certainly object to the formation of a Railway Committee without at least one or two English representatives for the province of Quebec. These points may appear trivial, but in the long run they will become substantial when measures of national importance have to be discussed. I do not make these remarks because of any ambition I have in regard to the matter, but I do it in the interests of the people I represent. We do not want to be ignored.

Hon. Mr. GIBSON—Senators Mitchell, Owens and Pope are on the committee.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—I do not know why the young fry should take precedence over the older members. I say it is not fair to form the committees in this way. I care not a snap for myself personally, but it shows venom or ill will on the part of certain people who have certain interests to serve on committees where they do not want to have their measures criticised, and I desire that the country shall know it and that will be satisfaction.

Hon. Mr. WATSON—I do not think the last remark of the hon. gentleman from Victoria Division should go unchallenged. I have been a member of that striking committee for some years, and I think that every portion of the Dominion is represented on that committee. There are seven out of the nine provinces which have members on that committee, and there are only nine members on the committee. Ontario and Quebec, being the two largest provinces, have each two members, and we have tried on every occasion as far as possible to select men who are best adapted to do the work of the several committees. We have also taken into consideration the fact that we had dead men on those committees, and have as far as possible left them off the committees and substituted active workers. So much so that we had before us, while striking those committees, a list of each committee,