

had allowed these companies to take power to borrow money on deposit in conjunction with the power to borrow on debentures. He wished it to be very distinctly understood that the Government did not hold themselves in any way pledged to concur, in future legislation, in that double borrowing power. The matter required careful consideration, but he could see great risk and danger in the powers attempted to be exercised.

Mr. PLUMB trusted that all such companies would be brought under the provisions of a general law, enabling the Committee to deal with all bills on the same basis.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presumed that the various bills in question had better be finally read, as the Government had no objection to any of the amendments.

They were accordingly read the third time, and passed.

#### THE OFFICIAL REPORTS.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON moved the adoption of the report of the Committee charged with the management of the debates.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—I do not think that notice has been given of that motion, and at this stage of the Session I must take upon myself the unamiable responsibility of objecting to any motion being put of which notice has not been given—at all events, with reference to this important subject.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—Surely the hon. gentleman will not oppose the Government in this matter.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—This is not a Government measure.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON—If this report is rejected there will be no *Hansard* next year.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—That is precisely what I desire.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON—Then the hon. gentleman must take the responsibility.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—I will take the responsibility.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON—I cannot make the motion, if there is an objection raised.

Mr. SPEAKER—The motion is not in order.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—I hope that my hon. friend, in a spirit of fair play, will withdraw his objection.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—On this subject I have made up my mind unalterably; and nothing will induce me to withdraw my objection at the present stage. My deliberate opinion is, that a large majority of the members of this House are opposed to the continuance of the *Hansard*. The subject has been postponed until only a mere handful of members is present. I know the frequency with which important matters are brought up at this period, and if I am here to-day, it is because this is the case. I take the responsibility, sitting on this side of the House,—which I often took, when on the other side—of insisting on the observance of the rules respecting matters I deem of sufficient importance to justify that course.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—I regret the fact that a disposition is shown to strangle this infant child of the Printing Committee. I am not aware that the report is adverse to the continuance of the *Hansard*. The reports may not have been as copious in reproducing speeches as some hon. gentlemen might have desired; but I would only say this—the managers of it have very fairly done what they could to give a correct representation of what has occurred in this House.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—That is quite true. The work has been very well done; I do not complain of that at all.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—If there is anything defective it is to be found in the carrying out of the details of the system, which we should rather try to improve. The hon. gentleman states that owing to the thin attendance we should not now deal with so important a matter; but Parliament has already sanctioned the establishment of the *Hansard*. Two years ago we voted a sum of money for the purpose; and we did the same thing last year. Therefore, if there is any endeavour to obtain a snatch judgment on the question, it is not shown by those who wish to continue the system, but by those who