

and ask leave to sit again. I report that back to the Convention. If it goes to the other extreme, the report is received or rejected, I report that back to the Convention and I put it to the Convention to accept or reject the decision of the committee of the whole. Take the midway position of no debate and debate ad infinitum; I get a closure motion, I have to put that motion.... A closure motion is non-debatable. If I receive that at any time, I have to put it.

Mr. Higgins That is your ruling?

Mr. Chairman That is my ruling as far as a closure motion is concerned.... I have to put any motions received in committee to you.

Mr. Hickman The method outlined by Mr. Smallwood for procedure was probably the best way to tackle it. But I would like to be clear on this. Mr. Smallwood said in going through it clause by clause, we would go on from one to the other. I would want to make sure there is nothing to prevent a member from reverting back to a previous clause at any time.

Mr. Chairman The context of any clause may only be resolved perhaps in reference back to other clauses. I can give you a definite assurance on that.

Mr. MacDonald Coming back to this question of appointing someone to pilot this through committee of the whole. We have a precedent to follow. Major Cashin steered the Forestry Committee's report through committee of the whole. I know the Chairman of the Convention did not appoint him.

Mr. Chairman Furthermore, even if it was the practice to have the chairman of a committee pilot it though the committee stage, I would rule that it is not applicable here. For this reason, Mr. Bradley was a member of that delegation by virtue of the fact that he was Chairman of the Convention.

Mr. Higgins He was a member *ex officio*.

Mr. Chairman Therefore, the moment he resigned his office, he lost his right to appoint anyone. The more I go on, the more I become convinced of the soundness of what Mr. Hollett says; that it is going to devolve upon me to appoint somebody to steer it through, if and when you decide to go into committee of the whole. Therefore, if the motion to go into committee of the whole is accepted, then I think I will appoint

a person to do it. In view of the fact that Mr. Bradley is absent, then I propose to appoint Mr. Smallwood to pilot it through.

Mr. Hollett One other question I would like to ask, there is going to be certain information which we will require, to whom shall one direct these questions? To you or to whom?

Mr. Chairman I think the questions should be directed, in the first instance, to the person piloting it though. If you are not satisfied with the information supplied, because it lacks official standing, then you should address your questions to me....

Mr. Harrington Before you put the question, I just want to say I associate myself with the remarks made by Mr. Hollett earlier in the proceedings. When the House divided on this question, on both occasions my name appeared in the negative. I did not think we were competent to deal with this matter as a Convention.

Mr. Chairman You are stopped now from commenting on the competency or otherwise of the Convention, by virtue of the fact that you should have determined it before you sent the delegation to Ottawa....

Mr. Harrington I did not send them at any time. I had nothing to do with it, first or last. Surely I can say that. Now that we have the documents before us, I suppose we have to make the best of it.

Mr. Chairman If there was a division taken twice, and you voted against it, your position is already a matter of record, twice. In this particular instance, Mr. Smallwood, I will appoint you to take over, by virtue of the fact that you were a member of that committee and in view of the fact that Mr. Bradley is absent and has requested you to pilot it through....

Mr. Hollett Is that in view of Mr. Bradley's absence, or is it for the duration? I take it, when Mr. Bradley comes back, he will take over.

Mr. Chairman Mr. Smallwood's appointment will be deemed to stand unless, upon his appearance in the House, Mr. Bradley is prepared to assume the responsibility. Obviously I cannot force on him the assumption of duties he may not want to assume or may not be able to assume.

Mr. Higgins It will depend on good behaviour?

Mr. Chairman Quite so.