

be aggrieved, because if I remember rightly, I gave you priority over Major Cashin.

Mr. Smallwood I was speaking now of the debate in the last few days, and for the next few days. I was just anxious that any member deciding to speak should get the chance to speak without receiving a nod from anyone except from you as Chairman. I move the house into committee.

Mr. Cashin Before the House goes into committee of the whole, in connection with this nodding business, as Mr. Higgins said, Mr. Smallwood has been nodding his head ever since this confederation issue was brought in here. It's been most atrocious what has been happening. Mr. Smallwood introduced this matter into the House, and after every delegate has spoken, instead of waiting until everyone who had anything to say has finished, and then replying right away, Mr. Smallwood has been up contradicting him, and consequently this debate has gone on too long. It could have been over before now but for Mr. Smallwood, I think that's quite patent to all.

Mr. Chairman It is quite patent. As a matter of fact on that point standing order 572 puts the position thus: "The main difference between proceedings of the Committee and that of the House is that in the former the member is able to speak more than once in order that the details of the question or bill may be given the most minute examination, or as is commonly expressed, to have more freedom of speech, and that argument may be used *pro et contra*, so that this unrestricted right of debate is not taken advantage of to any great extent."

Mr. Cashin In other words it should not take a half hour to say "yes" or "no".

Mr. Chairman If members are not prepared to do so of their own accord they should be compelled to abide by the rules of debate. In this particular instance ... all I can say, Mr. Smallwood, is that before I put the closure motion I will endeavour to see that you get the opportunity of replying once. Beyond that I am not prepared to go. Nor will I give you any guarantee, or any other member, that he will be permitted to address the Chair at any time because naturally the person to whom I must give the floor is the person who catches my eye, whether he is nodded, or prompted or prodded into doing it by anyone else.

Mr. Cashin Mr. Chairman, I would like to draw

to your attention the fact that we have night sessions this week.

Mr. Chairman It is my intention, by and with the permission of the House, and if we have a quorum, to hold sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings as previously agreed.

Mr. Fogwill Mr. Chairman, I have not got the nod from anyone, I was permitted to speak by you.

Mr. Chairman Not permitted by me to speak, Mr. Fogwill, it was your right to address the Chair. The Chair recognised you, and as far as I am concerned you were rightly entitled to the floor, or you would not have got the floor.

Mr. Fogwill Thank you. I got the floor when I rose to my feet. As far as this getting the nod, which Mr. Smallwood has accused someone of giving to me, I think the person who made the accusation is only trying to make political capital out of it.

Mr. Butt Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of privilege.

Mr. Chairman Please state your point.

Mr. Butt I want to refer to what Mr. Smallwood just said. There is an implication behind it, that someone nods to me, and then I speak. Nobody in this house or out of it nods to me. The only person who nods to me is my wife as far as I know, and when she does, I move! But in the sense in which Mr. Smallwood has used it, it is absolutely untrue. Further than that it is a wonder that I have had the patience that I have been able to muster the past few weeks. I butted in once and made a comment and quoted two authorities. The reply I got was, "All the economists in the world will look upon that as a childish idea." I pointed out on another occasion that a thing was mandatory, and what comment did I get? "Trash and nonsense." The only thing I can see is that I must have been nodding at that time, or there would have been hell to pay!

Mr. Chairman I am not concerned with the motive or motives which prompt members into occupying the floor. That is a matter for their sole concern. I am simply concerned with one thing, to insure that a member shall occupy the floor at the time he is fairly entitled to it, and beyond that I am not going. Therefore it is only a waste of time to draw my attention to suggested motives upon which I, for obvious reasons, can make no pronouncement. I am simply concerned with enforcing the rules of debate....