

A POINT OF ORDER.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD rose to move the first reading of the Bill usually introduced at the beginning of the session:—viz. that respecting the taking of oaths of office.

Mr. BLAKE rose to a point of order. He considered it the duty of the Atty.-General next to move the motion necessary to the issuing of writs for the new elections.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD said that his object was to have an assertion of the independence of the House, as was usual at the opening of each session. His moving the first reading of this Bill at this time only delayed the motion respecting new writs by a few moments.

Mr. BLAKE said it must be done at once. Nothing intervening.

The SPEAKER said the motions for the new writs would naturally follow immediately after the reports of the judges being entered upon the journals of the House.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD said that if it would gratify the hon. member for Bruce, he would make the motions now.

Hon. Mr. WOOD said he did not know that the motion was necessary. He thought that the Statute implied that the writs should issue without any motion being made.

Mr. BLAKE insisted that the Statutes said the House must order it.

Mr. MACKENZIE jestingly said he was sorry to see that there was a difference of opinion already displaying itself in the Cabinet. (Laughter.)

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD said that the question was something new in Canadian parliamentary practice, and differences of opinion were apt to arise among Ministers, as none of them were made of putty. (Laughter.)

The motions for the issue of new writs were then made and carried.

OATHS OF OFFICE.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD moved the first reading of a Bill respecting the administration of oaths of office. Read first time, and second reading ordered for this day two weeks.

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

The SPEAKER said that to prevent any mistake he had been furnished with a copy of His Excellency's Speech, which he proceeded to read until stopped by cries of "dispense."

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD then moved that His Excellency's Speech be taken into consideration on Monday. Carried.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD then moved the usual formal notice respecting the printing of the votes and proceedings of the Assembly which was carried.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD moved that the usual Select Standing Committees on Privileges and Elections, Railways, Private Bills, Standing Orders, Public Accounts, Printing, &c., be appointed for the session. Carried.

CORRUPT PRACTICES.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD made a formal motion respecting the bribery of members, &c., &c., which was also carried.

WEST DURHAM.

The SPEAKER then read a letter from Mr. Edward Blake resigning his seat for West Durham and electing to retain that for South Bruce.

The House adjourned at 4.30 until Monday at 3 o'clock.