

A question arose at this juncture as to whether the motion just carried replaced Mr. Robinson's motion.

The CHAIRMAN ruled that the original motion should be put as amended.

Mr. MEREDITH appealed from the decision of the Chair. He contended it was a self-evident proposition that the amendment replaced the original motion.

After a long discussion on Parliamentary rules,

The CHAIRMAN decided to add Mr. Deacon's motion to that of Mr. Robinson, and take a vote thereon.

Mr. MEREDITH insisted on the appeal being put.

The question, "Shall the chair be sustained?" was then voted upon with the following result:—

Yeas—Hardy, Wood, Graham—3.

Nays—Bell, Deacon, Harkin, Hay, Hodgins, Lauder, McMahon, Meredith, Miller, O'Donoghue, Patterson (Essex), Robinson, Wills, Williams—14.

Mr. ROBINSON moved, seconded by Mr. MILLER, "That Mr. Deacon's resolution be reconsidered."

This was carried by a vote of 12 to 3, Messrs. Patterson, Williams, and Hodgins voting in the negative.

Mr. DEACON then added the substance of Mr. Robinson's motion to his resolution and submitted it to the Committee. It then read:—"That in the opinion of this Committee, sec 125 of the British North America Act excludes from the consideration of this Committee the subjects of exemption in sub-section one of section six of the Act respecting the assessment of property, and that in the opinion of the Committee the Legislature of Ontario has no jurisdiction to repeal the said section of the British North America Act; and that the said sub-section one of section six stand as it is at present."

Mr. MEREDITH asked whether it was the intention of the mover to commit the Committee against the consideration of this question, or whether he simply meant that the British North America Act prevented them from considering it.

Mr. DEACON—I really mean both. I am in favour of the section standing as it is.

Mr. MEREDITH—On its merits?

Mr. DEACON—Yes. I am not in favour of having that description of property discussed.

Mr. HAY suggested to the mover that this way of blocking the Committee would not stop the agitation. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was then put and carried by the following vote:—

Yeas—Hardy, Wood, Deacon, Graham, Hodgins, McMahon, O'Donoghue, Robinson, Williams—9.

Nays—Bell, Hay, Meredith, Miller, Patterson, Wills—6.

On motion of Mr. LAUDER the Committee adjourned to Tuesday next at 11 a.m.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

There was no quorum of the Public Accounts Committee this morning, and the Chairman (Mr. Clarke, Wellington) ordered an adjournment to Tuesday at 11 a.m.