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THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1974

SPEAKER: THE HONOURABLE JAMES M. RUSSELL

The House met at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

The honourable the Member for St. John's East:

HON. W.W.MARSHALL (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, I rise to move the adjournment of the House until tomorrow Thursday, March 21, 1974 at 3:00 p.m. I move that the House do now adjourn.

HON. E.M.ROBERTS (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I ask for rulings, Sir? Whether the motion, not the second motion, the honourable gentleman made two motions, Sir, the second of them I know is not debatable, the motion that the House do now adjourn. But I ask, Sir, whether the first motion that the House do adjourn until next Thursday is debatable and I would refer Your Honour to page (106) of Beauchesne, citation 32 (1m). Leaving out the relevant parts, Sir, that citation reads as follows: "The following motions are debatable: Such other motion, made upon routine proceedings, as may be required for the observance of the proprieties of the House, the maintenance of its authority, the appointment or conduct of its officers, the management of its business, the arrangements of its proceedings, the correctness of its records, the fixing of its sitting days or the times of its meeting or adjournment."

I submit, Sir, that the first motion moved by the House Leader for the government falls squarely within the wording of that citation. Our own Standing Orders are silent on the point, Mr. Speaker, and our Standing Orders require that where they are silent or where our practice is silent that we then refer to Beauchesne.

Subsection (2) of citation (32) in its entirety says: "All other motions, including adjournment motions, shall be decided without debate or amendment." I submit that the Gentleman from St. John's East, in effect, moved two motions. Indeed, he twice used the words "I move" The first motion I submit is debatable. The second motion I concede quite properly and quite readily is not debatable. I

would ask therefore, for a ruling from Your Honour please.

MR. MARSHALL: On that point of order, Mr. Speaker, if I may. What was moved was really one motion. The motion was a motion for adjournment and a motion for adjournment according to Beauchesne, quoting the reference already referred to by the honourable the Leader of the Opposition, says that all other motions including adjournment motions shall be decided without debate or amendment. I think that this is the situation here. It is merely a motion to adjourn until next Thursday.

MR. ROBERTS: If I may add another word, Sir, with the greatest of respect. I submit there were two motions. The normal adjournment is simply that this House do now adjourn in which case the time of our meeting is governed by our Standing Orders. This, Sir, is not the normal adjournment motion this is a motion to adjourn this House for five sitting days and I submit that it falls fairly and squarely within section (1m) of citation (32) the section which I read at length.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please! The Chair rules that the motion placed by the honourable Member for St. John's East is indeed one motion and that is the motion to adjourn. As such, of course, it is not a debatable motion.

It has been moved and seconded that the House do now adjourn until tomorrow Thursday, March 21, 1974 at 3:00 p.m. Those in favour "aye" contrary "nay." In my opinion the "ayes" have it. The motion is carried.

MR. ROBERTS: (Inaudible)

HON. MEMBERS: Let us divide the House anyway.

MR. SPEAKER: Call in the members.

DIVISION:

MR. SPEAKER: Those in favour of the motion please rise: The honourable the Minister of Industrial Development, the honourable the Minister of Health, the honourable the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture, the honourable the Minister of Provincial Affairs and

Environment, the honourable the Minister of Public Works and Services, the honourable the Minister of Tourism, the honourable the Minister of Education, the honourable the Minister of Justice, the honourable Mr. Marshall, the honourable the Minister of Fisheries, the honourable the Minister of Transportation and Communications, the honourable the Minister of Rural Development, Mr. Stagg, Mr. Aylward, Mr. Wells, Mr. Brett, Mr. Peckford, Mr. Senior, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Evans, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Howard.

MR. SPEAKER: Those against the motion please rise: The honourable the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Gillett, Mr. Neary, Mr. Frederick Rowe, Mr. Martin.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare the motion carried. I do now leave the Chair until 3:00 p.m. tomorrow Thursday, March 21, 1974.