

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): I want, Sir, to seek some elucidation from you. You say that we should seek facts from the Government. Is the information published in the Press not reliable and can we not take that information as tantamount to facts, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: No, definitely not. There are many newspaper reports and it is generally the parliamentary practice that questions or motions based on mere newspaper reports are not admissible. That is the convention. That is the rule. That is the practice. It is necessary that the hon. Member tabling a question or a motion must satisfy himself in the first instance and must be in a position to say about the facts on his own knowledge or on the information which he considers to be reliable and then only he can table that question. (Interruption). Order, order. A newspaper report is not necessarily a true statement of facts. It is an everyday experience that papers are reporting, giving forecasts, and sometimes giving some kind of sensational information and if we were to go upon them as a basis, I do not know what else can be discussed in this House excepting the newspaper reports from day to day.

Shri S. S. More: May I know what is the practice in the House of Commons?

Mr. Speaker: The same as I said. A question was put there and I think Mr. Attlee made some protests. If he puts a question he will get the reply.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon cum Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): That question can be put only after a day's notice. We cannot do it immediately.

Mr. Speaker: That is no argument. He can put any Short Notice questions any time—that is the procedure.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): Would you not take judicial notice of a fact reported reliably in the Press and also discussed in such a forum as the House of Commons?

Mr. Speaker: I cannot take judicial notice of whatever appears in the Press. Even when it is based on the Press report of the discussion in the House of Commons, unless I see the Hansard, it is not possible to take judicial notice. The hon. Member is

talking of judicial notice but he understands as a lawyer what a judicial notice means.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform hon. Members that I have received the following letter.....

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Sir, I want to point out.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Not when I am on my legs and addressing the House—no interference unless on a point of order, and even then there could be no point of order when the Speaker is on his legs.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: Excuse me, Sir.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

I have to inform hon. Members that I have received the following letter from Rt. Rev. John Richardson:

"I shall be very grateful if you as Speaker will kindly move the House to grant me leave of absence from the House with effect from Monday, June the 23rd, 1952 for the remainder of the present session. My work as Bishop makes it necessary for me to take leave. I shall not be able to be present in the House after that date."

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Rt. Rev. John Richardson for remaining absent from all meetings of the House during this Session, with effect from the 25th June, 1952?

Leave was granted.

Mr. Speaker: We will now take up the Demands. Before doing so, what is the point which Mr. Rajabhoj wanted to make?

श्री पी० एन० राज भोज : मैंने एक शार्ट नोटिस क्वेश्चन (short notice question) पूछा था। आपने कहा था कि एडजर्नमेंट मोशन (adjournment motion) नहीं होना चाहिये, शार्ट नोटिस क्वेश्चन होना चाहिये। आज तक मुझे उस शार्ट नोटिस क्वेश्चन काजवाब नहीं मिला है इसका क्या कारण है ?