

relations with other countries. In that way he was emphasizing the importance of international affairs. As far as the estimates before us are concerned, they are in a position no other estimates are in. They were considered minutely by the committee on external affairs. Unless we follow the second suggestion of the minister and continue this discussion for several days I do not think there is anything more that one can say in the circumstances.

I should like to say a great deal but I shall end by making a reference to one of the closing points made by the hon. member for Peel. He said that he hoped that some day Canada would be the heart of the British empire. Perhaps that is a laudable desire, but if my hon. friend will examine it a little further he will find in that desire the root cause of much of the international trials and tribulations that have beset the world for so many years. That is nationalism. I do not care particularly whether Canada becomes the heart, the lungs or the liver of the new social order, but I do hope that Canada will take her full share in building that new social order, and that it will be based on peace and on the good neighbour policy.

Mr. JAQUES: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Mr. Chairman, may I point out to the hon. member that we should have regard for the position of all hon. members. If there are to be speeches made I think we shall have to take the second course and continue to sit here so that all may have an equal opportunity. We shall either have to be forbearing, or go on and let each one have his opportunity to speak; because I do not think it would be fair to attempt to accommodate two or three or three or four members and then have the rest of us forgo what is the natural desire of each of us when opportunity offers to express his views upon these important matters. I do not want to close the discussion, but I think we should realize that if a few do insist on participating, they will have to share with us the responsibility of going on for some days next week.

Mr. JAQUES: Mr. Chairman, this puts me and puts the committee in a very awkward position. In the opinion of some of us the most important debate of the session should take place on these external affairs estimates, but as usual they are brought up at the very end of the session. I think this is the third or fourth occasion on which I have had to

speak in the very last hour of the session on this question of external affairs. It is all right to say, as some have said, that we can leave it to next session. We tried very hard yesterday afternoon to get the radio question left over to next session, but the government would have carried on the house for another month rather than do that. I certainly do not want to delay the house more than is necessary, but what am I to do? How would it be if each group were allowed to leave it to one of its members to express their views? The Conservatives have spoken and the C.C.F., and if I might be permitted to speak for this group, and then perhaps the odd independent, we might get through. We could save an hour by not stopping for lunch.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall the item carry?

Mr. JAQUES: No, Mr. Chairman. I am asking whether my suggestion would meet with the approval of the house.

Mr. GLADSTONE: The acting leader of the C.C.F. has withdrawn.

Mr. JAQUES: The acting leader of the C.C.F. said what he wanted to say, I suppose.

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): No, he did not.

Mr. JAQUES: Then let him speak so far as I am concerned.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: It is every member's right to speak, and each one will have to make his own decision in view of his responsibility both to his own conscience and to his fellow members of parliament.

Mr. JAQUES: If I have to decide between my own conscience and the conscience of others, I must consult my own, because that is the only one I am responsible to.

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps it would meet with the approval of the committee if the representative of the Social Credit party spoke for not more than five minutes. A representative of the Progressive-Conservative has spoken, and a representative of the C.C.F. party spoke for not more than five minutes.

Mr. HERRIDGE: I assure you, Mr. Chairman, that if a representative of the Social Credit party speaks, one of the independent members is going to speak. We know that the hon. member for Wetaskiwin and myself take quite different views on foreign affairs. I suggest that we should be sporting in this matter. I intended to make a speech myself on foreign affairs, but at this stage I suggest we cooperate and that no one speak longer than three or four minutes.