

As the House is to have an adjournment for a month I thought it only fair, since I had prepared a scheme, that hon. gentlemen should at least know the views of the one who drafted the proposition when he prepared this paper. I do not think I need say more to impress on this body the absolute necessity of not allowing this session to go without their taking up this question just as the House of Lords has done. It is far better that it should be taken up by the Senate itself, and that we should meet public opinion, than that a more drastic scheme should be forced on the Senate in consequence of our refusal to recognize the progress of events. I will not anticipate what might occur if the Senate is not equal to the occasion. There cannot be two elective Chambers. The Commonwealth of Australia is endeavouring to carry out that proposition. They are failing. Under the constitution in Australia—and I may say it has not been in existence eight years, and yet they have had three elections in that time—if an upper House does not meet the views of the lower Chamber after a given time, the government have the right to dissolve parliament. A man may have been elected only the year before and thus be forced to seek re-election. The tenure is limited to six years; every three years half the House is renewed, and if an upper House, although recently from the people, does not accord with the lower house, the government have the right to dissolve parliament. I cannot see that a House thus constituted can be considered an independent body if at the will of the government of the day, although recently elected by the people, it can be dissolved.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO SENATE OFFICES.

The Speaker read the following memorandum:

The undersigned has the honour to represent that the services of two pages were required at the opening of the present session of parliament, owing to two of the four who were in attendance last session having outgrown their usefulness as such. That in the absence of the Speaker, the Clerk, as has been the custom hitherto, appointed Coleman Gillespie and Clifford Russell to fill the positions, subject to the confirmation of the Senate.

The undersigned, therefore, recommends that the said appointments be confirmed, at the same salary as the other pages.

J. K. KERR,

Speaker of the Senate.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY.—Does the Senate decide, or is the matter to be referred to the Standing Committee on Internal Economy?

Hon. Mr. POWER.—Under the Act the Speaker is the authority, not the Standing Committee. If any hon. gentleman thinks this report should be laid on the table until to-morrow, in accordance with our rules, that would be a proper course to take.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY.—We are taken a little by surprise, and perhaps it would be as well to let the matter stand until to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. WATSON.—I understand that under the new Act the Speaker has to make the appointments for the Senate Chamber, and they have to be concurred in. In the past the Internal Economy Committee have made recommendations.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED.—May I point out to hon. gentlemen this view of the question, that in matters of this kind it might be desirable, while it is not incumbent under the Act that it should be done, that instead of it being referred to this Chamber it might be referred to the Internal Economy Committee, and the report from that committee adopted without discussion. It would be much better, where questions have to be asked and information given relative to these small appointments, that that should be done.

The SPEAKER.—This is a matter which we are initiating and we should not be hasty in taking action to-day. Under section 22 of the Civil Service Act, the Speaker is created a head of a department for the purposes of the Act, and the clerk of the House is created a deputy head. Appointments to the position of messenger and other positions in the lower grades determined by the Governor in Council, may be made by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the head of a department, based on a report in writing of the deputy head and accompanied by a certifi-