

Procedure and Organization

for democracy and the whole world. But what the government has asked for here is far less than what the government has in England. This is something I should like to bring to the attention of my hon. friend.

I feel the government must have an opportunity and the ability to bring matters to a conclusion, whether successful or otherwise. I believe that is the reason the people of Canada chose this government. They wanted a government that would bring in a new way of doing business.

My hon. friend quite rightly said there are many new members in the Liberal party. I respectfully suggest there are more new Liberal members than there are new Conservative members. However, there are many new members in our party who do not like sitting around doing what they consider to be nothing. Therefore, they want some action. We want things done in respect of the development of Canada. We want to know that at the end of so many days, within reason, a bill will be completed so that we can carry on and undertake another job. There are many things to be done in this land.

Some people say that this proposed rule is the same as closure. They say it is not different from closure and therefore, if closure is available to the government, there is no need to bring in this rule. With closure debate can be stifled immediately. Rule 75c gives hon. members the opportunity of advance consultation. As I say there is no comparison between the power given by this proposed rule and the power the government now has in respect of closure.

In respect of what I am about to say I would point out that I have not been in consultation with any of my colleagues, and certainly not with any members of the cabinet. I also say this as one who spent many years in opposition in a provincial legislature. I say that the hon. member was quite right in stating that he does not want to sit around here all summer discussing a measure such as this. I have gone into the proposal very thoroughly and I am firmly convinced that this is a good thing not only for the House of Commons but also for the people of Canada, by whom we were sent here. Therefore I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that I do not think we should sit around this place all summer. I do not think the people of Canada expect us to remain here.

I have just returned from my constituency. I spoke to a lot of the people there, some of whom are Conservatives. I mention that name

[Mr. Whicher.]

kindly because we do not have any Cr ditistes or N.D.P.'s in my riding. Many of these people asked why does the government not bring in closure now and complete this silyly debate.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Whicher: This is the feeling they have. If you go back to your ridings and if you ask you will find the same feeling. As one member of this house I say I believe that when we have listened to these people in the opposition for a reasonable length of time, another week or a few more days, we should have closure on this matter not only for the benefit of the House of Commons but also for the benefit of the people of Canada.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the hon. member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher) a question which is perhaps twofold. I did listen to all his remarks and as he said in respect of the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings (Mr. Hees) I too enjoyed the first part of his speech better than the second. I think he made a real attempt to be constructive. I ask the hon. member, as a former member of a provincial legislature, whether he can point to one piece of legislation the government has brought in, or which is on the order paper, which could not have been processed or moved along under rule 75A or 75B? I might refer to the omnibus Criminal Code bill. I suggest that any objective observer would agree that rule 75A and rule 75B would have taken care of that. Secondly, can the hon. member mention one provincial legislature in which there is anything similar to rule 75c? I do not care about the parliamentary system in England, unless the hon. member is willing to adopt all of it.

• (4:00 p.m.)

Mr. Whicher: It is a pleasure to answer these questions, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member asked me whether I know of any legislature in which there is a rule comparable to this. I am not familiar with all the legislatures here in Canada. But I want to say this. If you think as far as shouting—I don't know the word you would like to use here—and pushing legislation through are concerned—and if you think these fellows over here in the Liberal party of Canada are dummies—you should see the way the Tories of Ontario operate, because they are perfectionists. They have been doing this for years and years. I don't know what rules they operate under, but I tell you it is most effective. I am glad the hon. member brought this up.