

great deal of urgent business and it is so anxious to get through, since the first item of government business is the Customs Tariff, which in early October we were told was a most urgent matter, we would be only too happy to proceed until Black Rod comes by debating the Customs Tariff measure. I am sure there would be unanimous consent from all opposition parties to this course to assist the government by getting on with the measure, and perhaps disposing of it.

**Mr. Churchill:** This is unfair to hon. members because several wanted to speak on this important subject and they are not here.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Where are they?

**Mr. Churchill:** They are Liberal members, as I understand it, who wanted to speak on this subject. I feel, therefore, we should suspend to the call of the Chair. The bells will ring and we will come back.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Perhaps I may take this opportunity to ask the minister what business we will be asked to undertake on January 21 when we come back to the house, so that hon. members will have an opportunity to be prepared to deal with the business expeditiously? Can he give the business for the whole week?

**Mr. Churchill:** No question could be easier to answer. The order paper contains many items of government business, some of which have already been called and have proceeded one or two stages. I think if hon. members prepared for all the matters appearing under the heading "Government Orders", during the recess, then they will be prepared to go ahead on January 21 with any of the bills or resolutions which are therein inscribed.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** This is more evidence of the fact the government does not know where it is going or what it is doing.

**Mr. Knowles:** May I ask the house leader whether we will not be presented with a motion to go into supply on the first Monday we come back, because there are many supply motions that have yet to be passed in order to get all the departments into the committee.

**Mr. Churchill:** The suggestion will be considered. We could also proceed with the divorce bill on the day we come back. Perhaps the hon. member in his party will negotiate with us and give us some understanding on that score.

**Mr. Speaker:** The sitting will be suspended to the call of the Chair, and the bells will be rung.

At 10.05 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

## Royal Assent

### SITTING RESUMED

The house resumed at 10.30 p.m.

### THE ROYAL ASSENT

A message was delivered by Major C. R. Lamoureux, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Right Honourable the Deputy Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable house in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, with the house went up to the Senate chamber.

And being returned:

**Mr. Speaker** informed the house that the Deputy Governor General had been pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bills:

An act respecting the trustee board of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

An act to incorporate the Christian Brothers of Ireland in Canada.

An act respecting Merit Insurance Company.

An act to amend the Department of National Health and Welfare Act.

An act to amend the Food and Drugs Act.

An act to provide for the establishment of an Atlantic development board.

An act to amend the Coal Production Assistance Act.

An act respecting the construction of a line of railway in the province of New Brunswick by Canadian National Railway Company from Nepisiguit Junction on the Bathurst subdivision of the Canadian National Railway in a southerly and westerly direction for a distance of approximately 15 miles to the property of Brunswick Mining and Smelting Corporation Limited.

An act to amend the National Housing Act, 1954.

An act to amend the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act and the Federal-Provincial Tax-Sharing Arrangements Act.

An act respecting the Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada.

An act to establish the Canadian World Exhibition Corporation.

An act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1963.

**Mr. Speaker:** Before closing the business this evening I should like to extend to all hon. members present and, through you, to those who are not with us at this time, on behalf of the house officers and myself our most sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Before Your Honour leaves the chair I should like to express to Your Honour, to the Deputy Speaker, to the deputy chairman of committees and to all the officers and servants of the house the same good wishes which Your Honour has expressed to us on their behalf. I would go on to wish every hon. member, even the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. Churchill), a Merry Christmas. However, I cannot bring myself to wish this parliament a happy new year.