

Business of the House

stage, in view of what has been said, he undertook to do that. But will the Prime Minister, or will the government, just give us that simple assurance? Then it is quite obvious the amendment could be adopted and the house would be free to pursue the business of the day. How can the house, short of an undertaking of that kind from the Prime Minister or someone speaking with the authority of the government and on behalf of the government majority in this house, submit to a course which has within it the means of destroying fundamental rights of minorities in this house?

Mr. Fournier (Maisonneuve-Rosemont): Do you believe that?

Mr. Fleming: The Minister of Justice (Mr. Garson) finds merriment in the suggestion that there are fundamental rights of the minorities in this house that ought to be protected.

Mr. Cleaver: You have exercised them all day today.

Mr. Garson: What are you doing now?

Mr. Fleming: I suppose it is the same kind of laugh in which the Minister of Justice indulged in this house several weeks ago when an hon. member was detailing smuggling operations in which he indicated he had had a hand. There was the same kind of laughter from the—

Mr. Sinnott: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Fleming:—from the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Sinnott: What the hon. member is referring to has nothing to do with the amendment before the house.

Mr. Speaker: I doubt whether the reference is proper. In any event it refers to something which took place during some other debate. I do not think it is a proper reference.

Mr. Fleming: I will not pursue that aspect of my discussion of the Minister of Justice, sir.

Some hon. Members: Six fifteen.

Mr. Fleming: Six fifteen, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Cleaver: Go on.

Mr. Speaker: Is the house ready to continue this debate?

Mr. Fleming: Six fifteen.

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Fleming: I have not finished, and it is 6.15.

Some hon. Members: Six fifteen.

Mr. Abbott: Merry Christmas to one and all.

At 6.15 p.m. the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the house that I have received the following communication:

Government House
December 20, 1951

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that the Right Honourable Thibaudeau Rinfret, Chief Justice of Canada, acting as Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, will proceed to the Senate chamber tomorrow, Friday, the 21st December, at 12.30 p.m., for the purpose of giving the royal assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be,
sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. F. Delaute

Assistant Secretary to the Governor General

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MOTION TO SIT THIS DAY WITHOUT INTERMISSION OR ADJOURNMENT AT TEN O'CLOCK

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Knowles:

That this day's sitting of the house continue without the usual intermission at one o'clock p.m. and at 6.15 o'clock p.m., and that the house shall not be adjourned at ten o'clock p.m. this day.

And the amendment thereto of Mrs. Fairclough.

Mr. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to deal with one or two remarks that emerged during the course of the debate this afternoon. During that discussion we at times were discussing both the motion and the amendment, and you urged hon. members to restrict their remarks solely to the amendment. I now ask for your advice in the matter. I have been making a serious attempt to follow the course of procedure in the house. I have listened attentively to the rulings Your Honour has given on the various points of order that have arisen. I do not wish to be ruled out of order, and it is for that reason I now ask your advice.

My understanding of amendments is that there are three kinds, the first of which adds words, the second of which strikes out words and substitutes others, and the third of which strikes out the original motion and substitutes