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Some hon. Members: Agreed. Mr. Diefenbaker: Yes.

Mr. McIlraith: In view of what has been said, Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw the request at the moment and make it again at eight o'clock.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED UNDER ADJOURNMENT MOTION

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to provisional standing order 39A, to inform the house that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment tonight are as follows: The hon. member for Danforth (Mr. Scott); industry—automotive parts—loss of contracts by Canadian stamping companies; the hon. member for Spadina (Mr. Ryan), external affairs—Hungary—arrest and conviction of Canadian citizen; the hon. member for Sainte-Marie (Mr. Valade), labour relations—rights of French Canadian members of seamen's union.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

CANADIAN CONSTITUTION

REQUEST TO TABLE EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could have the indulgence of hon. members to make a request of the house for unanimous consent to revert to motions in order to table two letters having to do with the constitutional amending formula?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Our attitude, so far as the opposition is concerned, is that we will consent provided we can make observations on the fact that the tabling has taken place in this house after this correspondence was made available to the public outside of the house and delivered to the press at the hour of 3.30 p.m. or thereabouts this afternoon.

If we have a right to deal with this matter in a general way on reversion to motions, we agree. Otherwise, we cannot accept the travesty on this House of Commons, repeated for the third time this session, of things being

[Mr. Douglas.]

announced outside the house before they were announced in the house when the house is sitting.

Mr. McIlraith: I point out to hon. members that these letters were made public in another legislature over which this government has no control whatever. The federal government did not make them public until they were made public by the other source.

Mr. Diefenbaker: What other source?

Mr. McIlraith: The provincial legislature of Quebec; they were tabled there at two thirty this afternoon. This being the case, I cannot agree to any such proviso because, as I understand, the rules do not provide for a debate on the subject. This being so, I withdraw the request.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): Could I ask the minister, before he decides to withdraw—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. My understanding is that the minister has withdrawn his request. I suggest at this point that we revert to the business interrupted at six o'clock. The Chair will call on the hon. member for Waterloo South.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Goyer for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, and the amendment of Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Salisman: Before the recess I had pointed out the heavy responsibility that rests on the members of this house, particularly of the two older parties, to insure that parliament functions. I feel that the heaviest responsibility of all rests on the government, and it is up to the government to decide how effectively this parliament will operate. The government should recognize that the voters of Canada have had enough of party politics just for the sake of politics. They want parliament to get on with the job. In order to insure that we can get on with the job ahead of us, the government must free itself from its archaic attitude toward what constitutes a motion of non-confidence. It must recognize the right of the opposition to express itself on matters of opinion.