

Questions

This motion I am moving, Mr. Speaker, is seconded by the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill). In making this proposal to the house I wish to express my appreciation to the Minister of Transport and the representatives of all parties in the house for reaching an agreement which provides for what I regard as an orderly and responsible way of concluding this part of the session.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the motion?

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): May I ask why the arrangement could not be made in such a manner that the session would end on June 30 and the extra week we are sitting in July be provided by returning a week earlier? There would be no difference in the time allotted for a holiday or for the business of the house. It would seem there would be as much advantage to all hon. members to have the opportunity to be home in July and return a week earlier in the fall.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, this was a possibility that was considered. We felt that the provision of the Monday holiday at the week end would provide hon. members with an opportunity, if they so wished, to go to their ridings. We are also conscious of the fact that Her Majesty will be in Canada and in Ottawa that week and it would be desirable at that time to have the House of Commons of Canada in session.

Motion agreed to.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT

AMENDMENT RESPECTING METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

Mr. Robert Stanbury (York-Scarborough) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-140, to amend the British North America Act, 1867 (appointment of judges).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Stanbury: Mr. Speaker, this bill is a revival of one I introduced in the last session but which was not reached for discussion. It would not interfere with the crown prerogative, but it would require the government before making judicial appointments to obtain the opinion of a committee of the Canadian Bar Association as to the suitability and qualifications of persons under consideration. Such a procedure, I believe, would tend not only to preserve the generally high calibre of our judiciary but would also bolster public

[Mr. MacEachen.]

confidence in this vital branch of our democratic system. I hope there will be an opportunity for the justice committee to consider this bill in the fall.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS ACT

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD, REMUNERATION, ETC.

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution, which has been recommended to the house by His Excellency:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Historic Sites and Monuments Act to provide for membership on the board of an officer of the National Museums of Canada, and to provide also that the remuneration paid to members of the board appointed by the governor in council for attending at meetings or to other business of the board shall be fixed by the governor in council.

Motion agreed to.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

PROHIBITION OF COTTAGE IMPROVEMENTS, WESTERN NATIONAL PARKS

Question No. 96—**Mr. Dinsdale:**

1. Has a prohibition been placed on improvements on cottages located on leasehold property in the national parks located in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta?

2. If so, was such a prohibitory policy established and for what reasons was it established and how long will it continue?

3. How will maintenance up to to the high standard required in national parks be carried out?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): 1. A prohibition has been placed on significant improvements that structurally alter or extend existing summer cottages.

2. The measure was taken to stabilize the value and extent of existing summer cottages which is in line with our policy of not permitting the replacement of existing cottages or the granting of new sites and the gradual acquisition of all existing sites.

3. Normal maintenance and repair of the existing summer cottages is not only permissible but is required as a condition of the lease.