

months. The reasons which have led the gentlemen in the other House to reduce the term of imprisonment to three months I am not aware of, but I do not know that the clause is so framed as to call upon us to disagree with them in the matter. Probably three months would be adequate for both of these offences that are contemplated or, perhaps, at all events, not inadequate.

Amendment concurred in.

Mr. SPEAKER: What business does the leader of the Government propose to go on with?

Mr. DOHERTY: There are certain Bills before the Senate that we expect to come back to us but as they have not yet arrived perhaps we might suspend the sitting until three o'clock.

Mr. McMASTER: When does the leader of the Government expect that Parliament will be prorogued.

Mr. DOHERTY: It is expected that His Excellency will come down to prorogue the House at half past four o'clock this afternoon.

The House took recess.

### After Recess.

The House resumed at three o'clock.

### REPORTS AND PAPERS.

Relating to the extension for a further period of five years of the Arbitration Agreement between Great Britain and Italy.—Hon. Mr. Doherty.

Regarding the classification of the permanent employees of the House of Commons of all grades.—Hon. Mr. Burrell.

### ORDERS FOR RETURNS.

Mr. JOSEPH ARCHAMBAULT (Chambly-Verchères): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that certain Orders for Returns which I moved quite a while ago have not yet been brought down. I refer to an Order of the 18th September regarding the Siberian Expedition, and another of the 29th September relating to the military hospital at Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue. I might also call the attention of the House to the fact that a return passed on the 20th October asking for a list of the Grand Trunk shareholders, is not yet forthcoming. Although this list might have been more interesting before the Act providing for the acquisition of the Grand Trunk railway was passed, the necessity

still exists for that information, and I hope the Government will see that the list is forthcoming without further delay.

Mr. DOHERTY: I shall endeavour to have the preparation of all these returns expedited. In regard to the last subject to which the hon. gentleman has referred, it will be readily understood that a list such as he asked for is not a thing that can be obtained between to-day and to-morrow; the stockholders of a company like the Grand Trunk are liable to change at any moment. However, I shall ask that all possible expedition be made in securing the most correct list available.

Hon. Mr. BURRELL: If the hon. gentleman will send over to me a memorandum of the returns he requires, I will see that their preparation is expedited.

Mr. SPEAKER: I declare the sitting suspended until four o'clock.

At four o'clock the House resumed.

### THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

Mr. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Quebec East): Mr. Speaker, would I be in order now in referring to the matter that I was prevented from discussing this morning?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sure that under the circumstances the House will grant the hon. member for Quebec East every indulgence.

Mr. E. LAPOINTE: I wish to avail myself of the opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to impress on the House the importance of the question I raised this morning. We were told during this session by the Right Honourable the Prime Minister (Sir Robert Borden) and also by the Honourable the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Rowell), that in the near future a very important special Imperial Conference is to be held for the purpose of discussing and settling the future policy of the Empire so far as the relations of its component parts are concerned. Every one realizes that this matter is of the utmost concern to the people of Canada. Their national status, their destinies, and their honour will be discussed and may be decided at this eventful gathering. Therefore, Sir, I submit that the Government which is to be entrusted with the duty of representing our national interests at this most important meeting should be in harmony with public opinion and should have the support of at least a considerable portion of