

Hon. Mr. Brooks: Honourable senators, I would like to ask the honourable Acting Leader (Hon. Mr. Hugessen) on what he bases the particular date, Tuesday next, November 24, to which he suggests we adjourn. I am sure we all recognize the great difficulty involved in setting the length of recesses, but our return must be based on a cogent reason that we will have legislation before us at that time with which to deal.

My understanding is that the other place will be discussing the Estimates for the balance of today and probably all next week, and that after the Estimates have been disposed of they will resume the flag debate. If such is the case, it would seem to me that there would not be very much business for us to attend to if we return on Tuesday next. It also occurs to me that if such is the case, and it being possible to recall us at any time—honourable senators have every opportunity to know what is going on by following the news—we could set a later date and be called back sooner if necessary. But if we adjourn only until next Tuesday, then we must resume whether there is any business to attend to or not.

Therefore, I would ask the honourable Acting Leader if he knows what business will be before us at that time and the reasons for adjourning our sittings to that date.

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: Honourable senators, I am not sure whether my honourable friend the leader on the other side recalls, but we have an extremely important report from the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, containing a large number of proposed amendments to the Companies Act, to deal with on Tuesday evening. I imagine the discussion on that will take most of the evening and perhaps part of the next day.

I would also draw his attention to the fact that the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce has been summoned to meet next Wednesday morning to deal with a number of bills. They are: the Bank of British Columbia bill; the Canadian Institute of Actuaries bill, which received second reading last week; and the Royal College of Dentists of Canada bill. I think it is altogether likely that one or two of those bills will be ready to be reported back to the Senate on Wednesday afternoon.

I am not in the confidence of the Government or the leader on this side, but I think the idea of adjourning until Tuesday next, rather than until December 1st or 8th, was to try to clear up the business we have before us. I imagine that when that has been done there will be a fairly long adjournment if, as the leader on the other side says, the House

of Commons is to discuss the Estimates all next week, followed by the resumption of the flag debate.

Hon. Mr. Choquette: Honourable senators, I see no reason for urgency in dealing with the report of the Banking and Commerce Committee on the Companies Act. As we all know, there was a subcommittee appointed to study and review the bill section by section. The subcommittee's report, running to some twenty typewritten pages, was presented to the standing committee on Wednesday last, and every one seemed to be satisfied with the proposed amendments. That bill has been before us for several months, and I think its further consideration could wait; I see no special urgency about it. I believe its consideration is the main reason we are being asked to sit on Tuesday evening next.

With regard to the other bills, I can see no reason for urgency in dealing with them on Wednesday next. I support fully the proposition made by my leader.

Hon. Mr. Thorvaldson: Honourable senators, generally I do not do so, but on this occasion I must disagree with the views of my colleagues sitting in front of me in regard to next week's sittings.

I do so because I am the sponsor of the bill to incorporate Settlers Savings and Mortgage Corporation, which is now scheduled to come before the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce on Wednesday morning next. I know that some of the interested parties who reside in Winnipeg have made plans to come to Ottawa next Wednesday to appear before the committee, and I would not like to see consideration of that bill adjourned because I know these individuals are anxious to have this legislation move ahead.

I am sure that Senator McCutcheon is in a similar position with regard to his bill concerning the Canadian Institute of Actuaries. Consequently, I hope that the plans for meeting next week will be carried out as proposed by the Acting Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Hugessen).

Hon. Mr. Smith (Queens-Shelburne): May I add that I am in the same position as Senator Thorvaldson. I would be extremely pleased if we were to adopt the motion proposed by the honourable the Acting Leader.

Motion agreed to.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

At 5.45 the sitting was resumed.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.