

Dissolution of Parliament

just why he is doing this, and all about it, because there is going to be an awful lot of talk about the things that have happened in this session during the next two months.

There are going to be discussions across this country of the kind that were foretold at the time when I spoke on the address. I have gone through this kind of thing before in the province of Saskatchewan in 1929 and again, I repeat, on the same issue as that on which we were switched out this time. In 1929 we did not have a majority in the house and so we did not do what the group did here on this occasion. We did not say to them: such and such things are going to happen. We said: we will meet the members and find out. We met the members in session and were voted out, and we went across to the other side of the house and sat there. The new government sat there for five years. They took every year they had the chance to take, and at the end of that five years after we had discussed all the things they did or did not do in the five years they were there, they did not elect anybody to the house. Just before they went to the country they came to me and asked me if I would drop out of politics and take over the presidency of the University of Saskatchewan. That would have been a very fine thing, but I said this to them: I came into politics some years ago, and I am going to stay in politics until my constituency votes me out. And they have never done so.

Mr. Sinclair: In 44 years.

An hon. Member: Too long.

Mr. Gardiner: And I should not be at all surprised if after we get through discussing during the next two or three months the things that this government has done and the things they have not done and the things they said they were going to do and the things they say that they could not even get started in seven months, there won't be many of them back either.

There is nothing new about these things. As I stated a few moments ago, what we do in this house and what we do in legislatures or in the British House of Commons is what has been our practice over the years, and is based upon precedents that are well established, and the precedent in connection with this matter is well established. You must put it on the table of the house, and not only that you must put it in the *Gazette*. My hon. friend says that all of us who do not get the *Gazette* should subscribe to it. You do not just subscribe to it. If you are a member of parliament, you get it. When my hon. friend the Prime Minister agrees that is all we have

to do, that would be a method of accomplishing what he tried to prove to this house earlier when he suggested the Liberals had a document and hid it away some place and did not read it. When I got my copy on March 29, 1957, I made a note on it to send it west. I took it out west and read it. Of course, I had to get it back again and that document is marked, right on the front page, with the word "secret". Of course, I did not read it to the press and to my constituents out west at election time. And then on the second page it is marked "secret" again and, of course, I did not read that document to others.

You will not laugh so much in a moment, but somebody on the other side of the house did read it. I am not going to say it was the leader of the government, but somebody on the other side of the house read it and tore off the blue page and there was still "secret" then when they found that they had ripped off the blue page and there was still "secret" on the next page, they tore that page off too and then they brought this volume into the house. In that document is every argument, both for and against each consideration and the right hon. gentleman read the arguments for one side and left the other arguments out.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Gardiner: This is a sample of what is going to have to be said to the people during the next two or three months. Now that a document of this kind has been produced and put on the table of the house, every hon. member who sits on this side of the house from this time on will be able to call on ministers to produce any documents which officials of their departments may have given to them, and put it on the table, with the result that ministers will get a different kind of advice, or very little advice, from men who are in a position to give good advice. They trusted the ministers to whom they gave that advice would read both sides of the question and reach their own conclusions.

The Chairman: Order, order.

Progress reported.

Resolutions adopted in committee of supply this day reported and concurred in.

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROCLAMATION BY PRIME MINISTER

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, today I made an historic trip by air to the citadel at Quebec city.

Some hon. Members: Six o'clock.