

HON. MR. SMITH—I will inquire of the Minister of Justice the cause of the delay.

HON. MR. POWER—The hon. gentleman from Toronto was good enough to say the other day that he would very shortly lay on the table of the Senate the information which was moved for last session with respect to the importation of dynamite. I hope the hon. gentleman has not forgotten it altogether.

HON. MR. SMITH—I shall attend to the matter without further delay.

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE SENATE.

ENQUIRY.

HON. MR. POWER—Perhaps while we are waiting for some business to come up from the other Chamber—I understand that is what the delay is for—the hon. gentleman who represents the Government would allow me to make an inquiry without giving the usual formal notice, as it is a question to which I think the House has a right to expect an answer. The hon. gentleman who has for some time led the House, and who, with a modesty which is very unusual amongst politicians, has always declared that he leads it in a provisional way, only waiting until his place could be taken by somebody else, was good enough to inform the House before our prolonged adjournment that when the members returned and the Senate met again, a gentleman whose appointment as leader would not be of a provisional character would be here to represent the Government. I have looked around the benches, and I have failed to discover that there has been any addition to the members of our House since our last meeting, and the natural presumption is that some gentleman already a member of the House has been appointed to the responsible position which the hon. gentleman from Toronto has provisionally filled for the last three weeks. I think the hon. gentleman owes it to the House to indicate which of those hon. members has been honored with this appointment.

HON. MR. SMITH—I was in hopes that the matter would go over quietly without any such question for this evening. I did hope, and was authorized to announce before the adjournment, that during the recess the Government would be able to appoint a gentleman who could fill the position as leader of this House. I am pleased to announce that a gentleman has been appointed a member of the Senate to-day. He has not made his appearance here as yet, but I trust that before many hours he will arrive in Ottawa and take his seat in this House.

HON. MR. SCOTT—Name ! name !

HON. MR. SMITH—It can be no secret now ; it is the Hon. Mr Abbott, of Montreal, a gentleman who, I am sure you will all say, is well qualified for the position. He speaks both English and French, is an old parliamentarian, and is considered one of the ablest lawyers we have in the Dominion ; therefore hon. gentlemen, I am pleased to have the honor to announce to you his appointment in answer to the hon. gentleman's question.

HON. MR. POWER—Perhaps the hon. gentleman would be good enough to add to the obligation under which he has placed the House by announcing what portfolio Mr. Abbott is to hold.

HON. MR. SMITH—I am not prepared to go any further to-night ; I think I have sufficiently answered the hon. gentleman's question for the present. I move that the House do now adjourn.

DELAYED TRAINS ON THE IN- TERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

HON. MR. ALMON—I believe it is in order to state, before the House adjourns, that the report which I have received in answer to my enquiry as to the cause of the delay of the Intercolonial Railway train is a very unsatisfactory one indeed. It says that the delay was caused by "waiting for connecting train at junction." What do they mean by junction? There are a number of junctions on the road. Why not state