

the discussion of which members would like to be present. We might go on with this motion, and if we find any inconvenience we can change the Order from Wednesday to Monday.

Mr. LAURIER. The practice in former years, when the Government have taken Wednesdays, has been to substitute the Order for Wednesday for the Order for Monday, but I do not see any inconvenience in adopting the contrary rule this year, because there is so little private members' business on the Paper that we would practically have nothing to do after six o'clock. My opinion is that on every Monday public Bills and Orders will be reached.

Mr. CHARLTON. I think it would be unjust to private members who have business on the Order Paper if we did not adopt the Order of Wednesday for Monday, unless there is an understanding that public Bills and Orders may be gone on with on that day.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I think next Monday we will get through the private Order Paper.

Motion agreed to.

THE LAST GENERAL ELECTIONS.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). Before the Government Orders are proceeded with, I would ask the Government for the correspondence between the Government and the returning officers in the elections of 1891-92 which was moved for by the hon. member for North Oxford (Mr. Sutherland) early in the session. I would also ask the leader of the House for the return giving the reasons for the delay in the issue of the writs after the receipt of the warrants.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. The latter return, I believe, will be ready on Monday. It was being prepared yesterday when I enquired about it. I do not remember the former motion, but I will ask the Secretary of State about it.

THE CENSUS.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I desire to ask the Minister of Agriculture when we may expect the census returns showing the origins and religions of the people? They usually appear in the first volume, and are usually laid on the Table within a moderate time after the population returns. It seems to me that we should have had them before this.

Mr. CARLING. I expect them every day. They have been in the hands of the printer for some days, and I was told by Mr. Johnson that he expected to have them ready to lay on the Table to-morrow.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Mr. DAVIES (P.E.I.) Before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with, I desire to repeat a question which I put yesterday as to the action taken or about to be taken by the Government here in reference to the Bill reserved for the consideration of the Governor General by Lieutenant Governor Carvell, of Prince Edward Island. I asked whether that Bill had been received by the Government here; whether the hon. gentleman has had an opportunity of examining its provisions; whether, in view of what I gathered from his remarks the other day, approving

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of the constitutional rule laid down by previous Ministers of Justice in regard to these Bills, he would be prepared at an early day to return that Bill to the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island. I justify myself in pressing this matter on the attention of the leader of the House on the ground that there must be a general election in Prince Edward Island within the present year, and this Bill has been passed by both branches of the Legislature abolishing the Upper House and providing that the election shall be held for the single Chamber within the year. Therefore, if this is allowed to remain for any time undisposed of, it will place affairs in the Island in a very awkward position. I have had a copy of the Bill sent to me and have examined it, and I may say there is no doubt that it is entirely within the purview of the Local Legislature. If the hon. gentleman has received the Bill, I would urge him, in view of the grave possibilities which might be caused by delay, to return the Bill at once to the Lieutenant Governor to take such constitutional action upon it as he may be advised.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I understand that the Bill was received yesterday by the Secretary of State, who informs me that it was sent to my department to-day. I have not seen it. I should assume, from the description of the Bill which I have heard, that it was one within the competence of the Provincial Legislature. In view of the position of affairs in the Island, no unavoidable delay will take place in regard to it.

Mr. DAVIES (P.E.I.) Perhaps we may hear something about it in a week or two.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. Yes.

SUPPLY -- PREFERENTIAL TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

Mr. FOSTER moved that the House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

Mr. DAVIES (P.E.I.) Before going into Supply, I wish to call the attention of the House to a matter of some little importance in reference to the debate which took place in the House a short time ago as to the relations between Great Britain and Canada. The hon. member for North Bruce (Mr. McNeill) moved a resolution to the effect that, if and when the Imperial Government adopted discriminatory duties in favour of Canada and the other colonies, substantial reductions should be made in the duties on British goods. I had the honour of moving an amendment to that resolution on which the House subsequently divided. A report of these resolutions was forwarded by cable to Great Britain and the London *Times* of the 27th April, two days after the debate took place, contains a cablegram giving the two resolutions and a summary of the debate. I have no complaint to make in regard to the original resolution itself, because it is substantially correct, nor do I complain of the telegraphic reports of the comments which were made by the mover of that resolution and his seconder. I think it is well stated that the mover made an eloquent speech in its support, and that his supporters also spoke well, but I do complain that the resolution which we asked the House to adopt as an amendment has been misreported and travestied, and I say that this misreport and travesty has