

debate the address. We are simply suggesting a postponement of the debate to a later time, when hon. members of the opposition will have all the time they wish to discuss it. I wish to make that clear in regard to every one of these measures to which I have referred.

The government is not seeking, in any particular, to limit the right of hon. members to discuss the measures before us as fully as the rules of the house will permit; what the government wishes to do is to follow a sequence whereby the country itself will get a true picture of these measures, the importance of them, and their relativity before time is taken up in discussing a wide variety of subjects, as is inevitable in the debate on the speech from the throne.

Let me say this—and I shall not attempt to reply at present to everything hon. members opposite have said. Perhaps it is just as well that we have discussed these matters today, because it may help to save discussion on Monday next, and we may be able to get on more rapidly at that time. However, I do wish to take exception to one remark my hon. friend made, which was that certain measures which are in force at the present time are in force illegally and unconstitutionally. I will not go into a discussion of that at the present time, but I cannot, without protest, allow any member of this chamber to make a statement of that kind.

Mr. BRACKEN: I take it that the Prime Minister is not agreeable to allowing the two days he had planned for the Geneva agreements to be used for the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The government has considered the whole situation very carefully. It has considered the matter after discussing it with my hon. friend and other leaders. We have come to what the government believes will likely be the most acceptable and certainly the most advisable procedure and we hope the house will support the motion.

Mr. COLDWELL: Before the motion is put, may I ask the Prime Minister if I am correct when I say that the intention is that on Monday the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne will proceed; then that is to be followed by the Geneva agreements for two days?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes.

Mr. COLDWELL: I just wished to be clear on that, because it makes all the difference in the world with respect to this particular

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

motion. Under the rules of the house this motion cannot be put without notice, except with the unanimous consent of the house.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes.

Mr. COLDWELL: If the house understands that and agrees willingly, I am prepared to agree to the suggestion. But I wish to be clear on it.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: As I said earlier, in handing this motion to Mr. Speaker I had asked that the notice of the motion appear on the order paper on Monday. If the house does not wish to give its unanimous agreement, we can discuss the matter further on Monday. To adopt the motion now will mean that we will proceed on Monday, without further delay or discussion, to the debate on the address. It is fortunate we have had this discussion this afternoon.

There is one other matter. We had proposed this afternoon to have the speeches of the mover and the seconder of the address in reply to the speech from the throne. I do not think hon. members would wish the house to sit after six o'clock this evening. If these hon. gentlemen are prevented from delivering their addresses before six o'clock, I think the speeches of the mover and the seconder ought to be the first order of business on Monday.

Mr. ROWE: I should like to ask the Prime Minister if it is the intention to proceed today with the debate and then follow with the debate on Monday. Under what rule of procedure would we proceed today?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Friday is a government day. The government has the right, at any time it wishes, to waive its right in favour of a private member, or to facilitate some other order of business.

Mr. ROWE: Why not give us a motion?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: There is no need for a motion. There is nothing on the order paper at the present time. If one runs down the sequence for Friday as it appears in the rules, he will come, in the order of things, to private members. The government has felt that if it could be arranged to have the two hon. members speak today we would be that much further ahead on Monday.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the motion?

Mr. GORDON GRAYDON (Peel): Mr. Speaker, before the motion is put, I should like to say one word arising out of the dis-