

pearance, and for my part I once more respectfully appeal to the government: on the ground that at this stage of the session, this matter cannot be considered in a careful and systematic manner as becomes deliberations of this House, and it would not be wise on the part of the government to force this measure through this year.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (P.E.I.)—I must say that I am quite in accord with the sentiment expressed by the hon. gentleman from Kennebec (Hon. Sir George Drummond) that it is too late for us to deal with a measure of this kind. There has not been a session since I have had the honour of a seat in this House in which important Bills have not come up as now, during the last stage of the session, and I think it is the duty of hon. senators to take a stand against such a system as has been prevailing here for many years past of having the most important Bills introduced in the Senate in the last days of the session, when a majority of the senators have departed for their homes. It would become a fixed principle if we do not take a strong stand against it. Many Bills have come to this House late in the session which we should have had during the earlier days. I think this is a proper occasion on which to take a stand against this practice. This is certainly an important Bill. It would appear to me as if the fourth clause of the Bill was intended to strike at the government itself, or at their agents abroad, for the statements that they are sending broadcast through different countries to induce immigrants to come to this country. The hon. senator from Toronto pointed out that clause 15 of the Bill contained a provision which he thought would be beneficial to the country. It would certainly be a very bad measure indeed if he could not find one clause that would meet with the approval of the country. I congratulate the hon. member on the strong reasons he has advanced to induce us to support a Bill containing quite a number of clauses—namely, because there was one clause in it which might meet with general approval. It is a somewhat singular coincidence that an Aliens Bill was introduced in the imperial parliament during the present session. It was debated there for several days, and at the conclusion of the debate, extending over seven days, the

Attorney General said the government would withdraw the Bill, because at the rate of progress it was making it would take 515 days to pass the imperial House of Commons. If a Bill of that nature was likely to take such a length of time in the imperial House of Commons, a Bill of a similar title introduced in this House should I think be expected to take a little more time and attention from the honourable senators than we can give it in the closing hours of parliament, when we are within just three hours of prorogation.

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—It may be three days.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (P.E.I.) It is possible, as the hon. gentleman says, that it may be three days; but judging by the small attendance here I doubt very much whether we can extend the time as long as that. It is proposed that certain amendments shall be made in the Bill. We know nothing of what these amendments may be, but I am opposed to the Bill as it is presented to the House, and I hold that it is the proper time to make the motion that this Bill be read this day six months, and therefore I shall object to the withdrawal of the motion made by the hon. gentleman from Missisquoi.

The amendment was lost on division.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

In the committee on clause 2.

2. Section 3 of the said Act of 1897, as said section is enacted by section 1 of chapter 13 of the statutes of 1901, is amended by striking out the word 'knowingly,' and by inserting after the word 'Canada' in the seventh line the words 'knowing or having reasonable grounds for believing that he was then an alien or foreigner.'

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—This section strikes out the word 'knowingly' from section 3 of the Act of 1897.

Hon. Mr. DeBOUCHERVILLE—I shall object to the word 'foreigner' there. You may be a British subject and a foreigner.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—This clause strikes out the word 'knowingly.' Whether he does it knowingly or not he will be prosecuted.

Hon. Mr. KERR (Toronto)—It was only to meet a case that was decided, where the evidence was perfectly clear, that a man had