

that debate finishes, if the resolution carries, and we shall debate it here at that time. Is that the intention, Mr. Leader?

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): Yes. As honourable senators are aware, the Senate Order Paper has nothing on it at the moment. We have now completed all the business before us which requires our attention at this time. As honourable senators are also aware, under the rules we must adjourn to a specified date and be called back if business is available to us sooner than the date to which we have adjourned. This has happened a number of times this session. There is a debate now proceeding in the other place concerning the flag resolution. I would propose, when the debate is concluded in the other place, to speak to His Honour the Speaker with a view to having the Senate assemble at the earliest possible moment to consider that measure at that time.

Hon. Mr. Brooks: I do not know whether this sounds like a sensible question or not, but in the possible event of the other place recessing before September 15—that is, if they have a recess—what position would we be in as to being summoned back on September 15 if the other house was recessed?

Hon. Mr. Choquette: Supposing there is a compromise and they say, "We will let the resolution go until the fall?"

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): I think the crystal ball of the Leader of the Opposition is as good as mine.

Hon. Mr. Brooks: It is a pretty dull one.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): Mine is rather dull too. I would say, if no business comes to us specifically from the other place before September 15, then we would assemble in any event on that date.

Hon. Mr. McCutcheon: To do what?

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): There may be business at that time, but in any event we are now proposing an adjournment to September 15.

Hon. Mr. McCutcheon: Honourable senators, as I understand the situation we can always adjourn until a fixed date, and having adjourned until that fixed date we are bound to be recalled on that date. I know of no authority that can say "Well, we were to be called back on this date but we will now postpone it." I would much prefer, and I would suggest, while recognizing the prerogative of the Leader of the Government in the

Senate to decide the matter, that we should adjourn until September 30, subject to recall.

I have no idea what is going to happen in the other place. But I judge by reading the press that there will be a debate for some time; I also judge that when that debate is over there may be a recess and it seems to me that we should not be recalled here in the middle of that recess. I merely suggest to the Leader of the Senate that we adjourn to an appropriate date near the end of September, subject to recall. What has happened in the past is that we have adjourned to a definite date, and upon being recalled on that date have found no business to be done. For that reason I think we should extend the nominal period of recess, subject to recall, and immediately we are recalled we will all return.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): Honourable senators, I have made a recommendation. I suppose if one were to carry the argument of Senator McCutcheon to its logical conclusion we could adjourn to a much later date. I have discussed this matter with a number of persons on both sides of the house, and I think the consensus is that the date that has been chosen is a reasonable one. I want to emphasize, as Senator McCutcheon has emphasized, that under our rules we are subject to recall earlier than the date suggested, if there is need for our presence here.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Honourable senators, if we adjourn to September 15 and on that date there is no business to be done, we would merely be coming back as a matter of pure form. Would it not be possible to arrange that a quorum only be called? I would suggest that a common-sense arrangement be made, because in my view there is no sense in bringing senators from a distance, even from Toronto, when a number of senators are resident in or close to Ottawa, merely to adjourn again. For such an adjournment a quorum would be sufficient.

Hon. Mr. Denis: Honourable senators, I suggest that if we adjourn now for a recess we are going to be called back to discuss the flag. When we are called back to discuss that matter, then it will be time to adjourn again. There is no danger that the House of Commons will be in recess by September 15 because we will be called back by the Speaker of the Senate to discuss the last item passed by the House of Commons.

Hon. Mr. Hollett: I realize the problem facing the Leader of the Government in this house. If we are to be called back before September 15, could we at least have a couple of days' notice, particularly those of us who