Supply-External Affairs

not as important as we in this House of Commons think, has a record of which we can be proud and surely has an opportunity to continue to be a good member of the international community. I for one hope that we will improve our United Nations role. I hope that we will extend our foreign aid. I hope that we will look at the UN realistically. I am not afraid to criticize it, because I think it has made its way. We cannot have it pass and wither away like the league of nations, because I am sure there is nothing to take its place. Considering what has taken place in my time I am not sure that we have ingenuity with which to proceed to create a new one.

In that benedictional tone I should end my remarks and say how much I appreciate the practical suggestions of those who have gone before. I should like to say that I realize the Secretary of State for External Affairs has been under a great strain the last few days. We all know that. When the chips are down in foreign policy we are not partisan. We wish him well in all his endeavours. We have the same wish for the efforts of the Prime Minister and Ambassador Ignatieff.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall vote 1 carry?

Mr. Douglas: No, Mr. Chairman. It is almost ten o'clock. I should like to ask what the position is in respect of item 1. The standing committee is dealing with the estimates concurrently to their being dealt with by the committee of supply. We wish to continue the discussion? Are we to continue with this item tomorrow?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Chairman, the business for the house tomorrow is unchanged from what was announced last evening. We will call the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Mr. Douglas: Do I understand then, Mr. Chairman, that the estimates of the Department of External Affairs are to be returned to the committee although they have never been taken from the committee. They actually now are the property of the committee. I am opposed to allowing item 1 to pass. If we are not to continue the debate in committee of supply, then the item ought to be passed on to the committee on external affairs.

Mr. Nesbitt: Mr. Chairman, if we pass item 1 tonight the committee on external affairs would be precluded from discussing it at all. With great respect, I do not think it should be allowed to pass.

[Mr. Macquarrie.]

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Chairman, whatever is done here will not prejudice the standing committee in the study of the estimates.

Mr. Douglas: The minister may say that it will not prejudice it, but the fact is that if the item is passed by the committee of supply, then the committee on external affairs is not likely to discuss an item which already has been passed by the committee of supply. Therefore we would ask that the item stand and either be discussed by the committee of supply or be studied again by the committee on external affairs.

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Chairman, I call it ten o'clock.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall the item stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed. Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Rapp: Mr. Speaker, does the house leader have any changes to announce in respect of the business for tomorrow?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, the business as announced last evening will be the business for tomorrow and all next week in so far as I can foresee.

I understand that arrangements have been made which would allow me, with consent, to refer the annual report of the Department of Veterans Affairs to the standing committee on veterans affairs. If I had consent to revert to motions and to waive notice I would make this motion, which would allow the standing committee to consider the annual reports of the department, the Canada Pension Commission and the War Veterans Allowance Board.

• (10:00 p.m.)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the house give unanimous consent to revert to motions and to waive the notice?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. McIntosh: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the house under provisional standing order 39A deemed to have been moved.