

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

should add that because of the limited time remaining out of the total time allocated for the completion of the business of supply, hon. members should perhaps be ready to deal tomorrow with any of the outstanding estimates not yet considered in committee of supply.

Mr. Starr: Mr. Speaker, I must object at once to that procedure. I think it is only fair that we should know ahead of time so that those members in the opposition who wish to make speeches, or for that matter members on the government side, will know exactly what is going to happen and when. I object strenuously to the statement of the minister that we should be prepared to deal with any of the outstanding estimates. I think that we should deal with them in the order announced by the minister.

● (10:10 p.m.)

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, there is also a point to be kept in mind here. There has been a general understanding that with the limited number of days set aside for supply there should be consultation with the opposition in order that they may be able to designate which departments they wish to have called first. This is particularly applicable now when there are only a few days left. I am agreeable to the departments the minister has announced tonight, but it seems to me that any other departments ought to be selected on the basis of consultation between the various house leaders of the parties. I believe that the opposition parties ought to be consulted in the selection of the limited number of departments we shall be able to deal with in the days still available to us.

Mr. Starr: I agree.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

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

EXPO '67—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE CONCERNING ACCOMMODATION

Mr. R.-E. Régimbal (Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes): Mr. Speaker, I do not know if it is worth while continuing with the remarks I intended to make inasmuch as the parliamentary assistant as well as the minister are not here. However, as this is an interesting subject I shall continue.

In bringing forward the question of Expo '67 in the adjournment debate I want to make abundantly clear that I do so in no sense of criticizing or downgrading. On the contrary, I speak because of my great concern for and interest in the greatest possible success for what should be the most gigantic and enthusiastic birthday party of all times.

The question I addressed to the Minister of Trade and Commerce on November 9 made special reference to room reservations. It was suggested that possibly my subject matter had been covered by the hon. member for Cartier (Mr. Klein) on November 7, as reported on pages 9658 and 9659 of *Hansard*, under the general title of rent controls during Expo. The hon. member for Cartier made a good point, and adding to his remarks I wish to read into the record a news commentary from Winnipeg radio station CJTV broadcast on September 23, 1966:

Despite assurances from provincial and civic leaders in Montreal that the anticipated thousands of visitors to Expo will not be gouged by increased prices, I have an acquaintance who has proof that such might not be the case. They applied for reservations through an organization called Loge Expo, a clearing house for all accommodation reservations. They received word that a reservation had been made at a certain motel.

My friend checked in the Automobile Association handbook and saw that the rate was \$14.50 per night for two people, \$19.50 per night for four. He then received word directly from the motel that the rate would be \$35.50 per night, and the entire week's charge would have to be forwarded immediately or else the reservation would be cancelled.

Now this may be an isolated case—lets hope so, for if it is not, the Expo will be tarnished for years to come.

Incidentally, my friends are not going.

In his answer to the hon. member for Cartier the minister's parliamentary secretary pointed out that this was a provincial responsibility, that the government's hands were tied, and he said that the closest continuing watch on the accommodation situation in Montreal would be kept. I believe that the minister responsible to this house for Expo should try to dispel all doubts in people's minds whether such a thing is possible.

At the same time I am particularly concerned about rumours—and heaven knows how fast the news can travel down the grapevine in such cases—which I heard within a period of one month in areas as widespread as New York, Hamilton and Vancouver, according to which room reservations would be impossible to obtain in Montreal during Expo. In each case the person involved had given up