

ing that sanction, but in its absence what is the country going to do? What stand is the electorate to take in regard to national and public affairs? By the limitation of the constitution, this Government ceases to exist on the 1st of October. That is four months and a half from the present time. It has power until October to administer the affairs of the country, but after that date the Government of the day has no right, constitutional or otherwise, to exist, or to administer. The country is unaware whether it is prepared to give the Government extreme unction or not, so as to send it to a happy destination. It is a serious matter. How is it, and why is it, that the Imperial Parliament has not yielded to the prayer of the Dominion Parliament? I do not wish to be authority for rumours that are going around, but I may state to this hon. House and Parliament of the country, that this Extension Bill was not sent over to England immediately after its passage. The information I have is that it has only been sent to the Imperial authorities within a very recent date. Now, what could be the object of the Government in not sending that Bill to the Imperial Parliament? Nobody should be more anxious for an extension of life than the present Government. Why, two years ago they demanded an extension of life for two years during the war, and for two years after the war. They were all for extension; they were anxious for it; they said that the requirements of the country demanded it, and His Majesty's loyal Opposition consented, but on condition that the extension should not exceed a period of 12 months, which the Government accepted in the long run. Now we know that an extension of twelve months practically means two years. The Government gets an extension of time from the 1st October, 1916, to the 1st October, 1917; then Parliament under the constitution dies. Then comes the exercise of the right of the Prime Minister, or of the Government of the day, to call an election. There is no provision in the constitution which compels him to call an election within thirty days after the death of Parliament; he can call it within eleven or twelve months, so that practically an extension of one year means an extension of two years to the party in power. Now, why has the Government failed to obtain from the Imperial authorities a sanction for this demand made unanimously by the Canadian Parliament? No one can tell me that a British Parliament would throw that Bill out unceremoniously. No one can tell me

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that once the prayer of the Canadian Parliament was placed at the foot of the Throne, it would not be accepted as a matter of course. No one can say that the British Parliament would put the prayer of the Canadian Parliament at the tail end of the Order Paper and deal with it when it pleased. As a matter of courtesy to this great Dominion that Bill, once placed on the Order Paper, would be passed within 24 hours. Now, nothing of that kind has been done on the floor of the British House of Commons. It has not been placed on the Order Paper; it has not been placed before the Parliament of Great Britain; it has not been advocated by a single statesman, either on the Opposition side or on the Government side of the Imperial Parliament. What does this mean?

Several hon. GENTLEMEN—Carried; lost.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Oh, I know what I say strikes at the roots of party feeling. They are afraid of the light, and they call "carried." We will put the cover on when all the light is in. We want to know if the Government is playing the electors of Canada. We want to know if the present Tory Government is holding this Bill up its sleeve.

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—I rise to a point of order.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Are you getting tired of the light?

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—Well, I rise only on a question of order.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Then I shall answer your question of order.

Hon. Mr. BOLDUC—We have already heard these remarks from the hon. gentleman three or four times, and I believe he is out of order at the present moment. There is nothing before the House.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—There is a great deal before the House. I have to answer that, I believe.

The SPEAKER—Order.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Cannot I answer that point of order and tell the hon. gentleman that he is absolutely out of order in raising it?

The SPEAKER—No, you have to prove there is something before the House. What is the motion before the House?

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—The motion is—