

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

THE CONSTITUTION

ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF COMMONS

The House resumed consideration of the motion of the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development (Mr. Chrétien):

That a Special Joint Committee of the Senate and of the House of Commons be appointed to consider and report upon the document entitled "Proposed Resolution for a Joint Address to Her Majesty the Queen respecting the Constitution of Canada" published by the government on October 2, 1980, and to recommend in their report whether or not such an address, with such amendments as the committee considers necessary, should be presented by both Houses of Parliament to Her Majesty the Queen.

That 15 members of the House of Commons to be designated no later than three sitting days after the adoption of this motion by members on the part of this House of the Special Joint Committee;

That the committee have power to appoint from among its members such subcommittees as may be deemed advisable and necessary and to delegate to such subcommittees all or any of their powers except the power to report directly to the House;

That the committee have power to sit during sittings and adjournments of the House of Commons;

That the committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, and to examine witnesses and to print such papers and evidence from day to day as may be ordered by the committee;

That the committee submit their report no later than December 9, 1980;

That the quorum of the committee be 12 members, whenever a vote, resolution or other decision is taken, so long as both Houses are represented and that the joint chairmen be authorized to hold meetings, to receive evidence and authorize the printing thereof, when six members are present so long as both Houses are represented; and

That a message be sent to the Senate requesting that House to unite with this House for the above purpose, and to select, if the Senate deems it to be advisable, members to act on the proposed Special Joint Committee.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Order. I believe the hon. member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve was to have the floor but I think the Secretary of State has some information to convey to the House first.

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[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Fox: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I should like to avail myself of this opportunity to inform members of the House that Tuesday, October 14, will be an allotted day.

The Constitution

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Mr. Serge Joyal (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve): Mr. Speaker, with your leave I will resume the debate where we had left it last night at the time of adjournment. I will try to assess the effects of the proposed resolution before us over the whole issue of immigration. This debate is all the more important that in yesterday's issue of *Le Soleil* appeared a headline on first page stating, and I quote, "Ottawa opening up English schools to immigrants."

Mr. Speaker, I strongly protest; the proposed resolution and especially section 23 does not deal at all with the immigration issue and there is absolutely no intention whatsoever of giving back freedom of choice to immigrants in Quebec whatever the country they may come from. Therefore, under the proposed resolution an American, Polish, Italian, Australian, Greek, Portuguese, British, French-Haitian immigrant is still required to send his child to the majority school, the French one.

So it is wrong to keep alive in the public's minds the idea that with this proposed resolution we are creating two classes of immigrants in Quebec. There is only one class of immigrants in Quebec, they all send their children to French school. I want to repeat and emphasize this, because for the last 48