

the notice need apply to any particular day, as long as it is given at a previous sitting. I think a day might intervene under the closure rules.

Mr. GRAHAM: If the notice were given to-night and the motion were made to-morrow, then closure would apply automatically after the motion was made, if it be made. If notice be given to-night and if the motion is made to-morrow, the Secretary of State could move one amendment, and then he would be through. He would have made his speech in the twenty minutes, and could not move any further amendments.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Some one else could do it.

Mr. MEIGHEN: The closure simply says that a member can speak not more than once on any one clause, and for not longer than twenty minutes.

Mr. GRAHAM: That is if the closure is on one clause; but if the closure includes all the clauses, as the conduct of the Government to-night would seem to indicate to be their intention, then the Secretary of State would be through in twenty minutes. If he can speak twenty minutes on every clause, every other member of the House can also speak twenty minutes on every clause.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I think so.

Mr. GRAHAM: But if the closure covers all the sections, as I think is intended to be done judging by the manoeuvres of the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State would be confined to twenty minutes on all the clauses.

Mr. MEIGHEN: My understanding is, although I do not say I am perfectly sure I am right, that any member can speak twenty minutes on any clause, and speak twenty minutes on any other clause.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: May we discuss the Bill to-morrow much after the manner we have been discussing it to-day? Could you not postpone the motion after giving notice to-night?

Mr. MEIGHEN: I think so. Notice may be given to-night, and perhaps we may come to an arrangement.

Mr. GRAHAM: I would not suggest either that the Government put it on or that they do not. They are at liberty to do whatever they like. When the Bill was before us the other day we were allowed 20 minutes each and then we were through. That covered all the clauses. I suppose that will be the

[Mr. Meighen.]

case to-morrow, and I would suggest that the Solicitor General should distribute whatever amendments he has among the members of the Government.

Mr. CURRIE: The Secretary of State can speak on each clause, but where the axe catches hon. gentlemen on the other side is that the debate must close at two o'clock in the morning.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: If all the clauses should be considered, any hon. member may speak 20 minutes on each clause. I move that further consideration of the schedule be postponed.

Motion agreed to.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I beg to give notice that at a future sitting of the House, or the Committee, I will move that the further consideration of sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, the schedule, and the title, be not further postponed, and shall be the first business of the Committee. I give this notice in the hope that we may make arrangements to-morrow morning by which it will not be necessary to make the motion. As I have already explained to the House, we are all anxious to get through with the session, and I do not think any one is more anxious than I am. I am in hopes, from a conversation with the hon. member from South Renfrew (Mr. Graham), and with the Chief Whip of the Opposition (Mr. Pardee) that we can make an arrangement to-morrow morning which will render it unnecessary for me to propose the motion of which I have just now given notice.

Mr. L. A. LAPOINTE: On the basis of the proposition just made by the Prime Minister, I hope there will be no arrangement with the Government come to, especially in view of the fact that even though the Bill has not yet been put in our hands notice of closure as been given by the Prime Minister.

Progress reported.

On motion of Sir Robert Borden, the House adjourned at 12.55 a.m. (Wednesday).

Wednesday, September 12, 1917.

The House met at Three o'clock, the Speaker in the Chair.

HOUSE OF COMMONS OFFICIALS.

OFFICIAL DEBATES BRANCH.

The Speaker informed the House that he had directed the Clerk of the House to lay upon the Table his recommendation to-