

The Hon. The SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion for the third reading?

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE: Honourable gentlemen, I have a right to make a motion on the third reading. I will move the adjournment of the House if honourable gentlemen are not satisfied. I wish to have peace. It was at my suggestion that we rose yesterday afternoon, and I am thankful to the honourable leader of the Government for having accepted it. I am just going to move this, in view of the facts which have been brought out and the decision of the honourable the Speaker. I do not wish to discuss the decision, which has been given in good faith; but we on this side of the House, many of us, think that the honourable gentleman from Victoria has not yet spoken on the third reading. Now he is deprived of his right to speak by the decision of the Speaker, which I respect. I do not wish to say anything against it, but under the circumstances, in order that the honourable gentleman may not be prevented from saying a few words—surely he will take just a minute or two—I will move that the honourable gentleman be given permission to address the House on the third reading.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Order, order.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE: What is the point of order in that?

Hon. Mr. SPROULE: The point of order is simply this. If the honourable gentleman (Hon. Mr. Choquette) is appealing from the decision of the Chair, it must be done without debate.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE: I say I do not appeal at all from the decision of the Speaker. I am going to move that this Bill be not now read a third time, but be read this day six months. I move the six months' hoist.

Hon. Mr. TESSIER: We will not be bullied.

Hon. Mr. CHOQUETTE: I am willing to withdraw the motion if the honourable gentleman has my permission to say a few words. Honourable gentlemen, I did not intend to speak further on this question. I have given all the reasons which I have for fighting this Bill. It is a very bad Bill in every way. I did not intend even to stand up and congratulate my honourable friend (Hon. Mr. Landry), who has spoken on the third reading, on

the view, the excellent view, he has taken on this question, that after this war is over Parliament ought to dissolve and a new election ought to be held, in order that those who are unjustly, unfairly and for political purposes disfranchised, may in a new election have the right to vote. Now, as this Bill is forced upon us, and as members of the Senate are deprived of the right of speaking, by a decision which, though given in good faith, is in my opinion and that of other honourable gentlemen based on premises which are not correct, I intend to make another motion on this question, without taking up much time in making a speech. It is sufficient to recall these facts to show how the Opposition are treated—ill-treated—in this matter—not by the honourable leader in this House, but by a few members on the other side, who have behaved in this matter as they ought not to have behaved. I move that this Bill be not now read the third time, but be read this day six months.

Hon. Mr. SPROULE: I rise to a point of order. I claim that such an amendment is out of order and that the honourable gentleman was likewise out of order in speaking. When the motion for the third reading is before the House, and any amendment is moved to that motion, the party who talks to the amendment is talking to the motion for the third reading as well, and by his speech exhausts his right to speak again on the third reading.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: That is ancient history—no good in a free Parliament. Honourable gentlemen, I have much pleasure in seconding this motion.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: The question is on the point of order raised by the honourable member for Grey (Hon. Mr. Sproule).

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I would like the honourable gentleman from Grey to elaborate somewhat his point of order—to explain it a little more clearly, because I have not caught the point he has made.

Hon. Mr. TESSIER: Does the honourable member (Hon. Mr. Sproule) contend that we have no right, when the third reading is proposed, to move that the Bill be not now read the third time but be read this day six months? Does the honourable gentleman claim we have no right to do that?

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL: Not if he has just spoken.