

work and give every member of the house an opportunity of taking part and making his proper contribution as the session proceeds.

The utilization of the full time of every member of the house is the least that the public can ask of its members in the commons. The massive programme of legislation that parliament is now asked to deal with calls for specialized and modernized methods of consideration.

I should like now to make one or two brief observations on the committee's work. It was a good committee; it did a good job, and I wish to pay a tribute to the care and consideration which every member gave to the work, particularly the chairman of the committee, the member for Cochrane, who has presided over it since its inception. A good many sittings were held, and the deliberations did credit to the members of the committee and all those involved in the work. Its recommendations, while not voluminous, were such as, I believe, parliament may properly be asked to concur in. One suggestion was the recommendation for an international hour each week in parliament. What do we mean by an international hour? We spend hour after hour, day after day, discussing domestic questions. I should like hon. members to calculate from their *Hansards* just how much time is taken up in a discussion of external affairs and international matters. It is nothing short of a disgrace. I do not want to attribute that to anyone in particular, but to the whole house. I want to take my share of it, but I do not want to take my share of it much longer, and that is why I am making the suggestion.

Perhaps one of the most important parts of Canada's business is her international business. The whole question of peace and war—and is there anything more important to the Canadian people than peace?—the whole question of our international affairs has been by the pressure of things relegated to the background of parliamentary consideration. What is the reason? The reason is that we have not an hour or any special period set aside for dealing with external affairs on a regularized basis. The very fact that in the last day of the session we are dealing with external affairs for the first time in any big way is the best argument that I can bring forward to support my contention. I suggest to the committee, and I think parliament should concur in it and the government should take cognizance of it, that one hour a week be given to the discussion of external affairs. We could call one item under departmental administration or some other item which would give us an opportunity to discuss the matter. There should be a change

[Mr. Graydon.]

in the rules so that at the next session at least one hour a week will be given over to this important matter. Look at what has happened. Almost every day since parliament assembled last March some kind of an international conference has been going on. What reports of these conferences did hon. members get? We always get them, eventually, but we are never brought up to date. We should be brought up to date, because actually there are legislative assemblies in which Canada is involved, and in which Canada is taking a part, which are just as important as, and sometimes more important than, our own House of Commons when it is dealing with domestic affairs. Therefore I say we cannot go on any longer without setting aside an hour for the discussion of international matters.

There is another matter to which I should like to refer, but I shall not deal with it at any length to-day, namely, a better system of control of international expenditures which Canada is about to make. That is a matter of grave concern, a matter of serious moment to the people of Canada. In the domestic field we take great pains to make sure that there is a comptroller of the treasury who watches or at least is supposed to guard the expenditure of money. In the international field we are only in the embryo stage, but before we go any farther it is the committee's proposal, and I think it will meet with parliament's approval, that we should take care that this country should not attempt to keep up with any of the international Joneses, in any big way. Up to date Canada has not done that. I am cautioning the government and parliament so that we shall not attempt to change that policy, but that we shall see to it that the taxpayer's money, whether it goes into domestic affairs or international affairs, is cared for and that we shall get a dollar's value for a dollar spent.

I should like to deal with many other matters which were brought up in the committee, but I have not the time at my disposal this morning to do so. I do wish to make one or two references to our position generally in the external affairs department. I admit that last spring the government went part way in acceding to the suggestion which had been made so many times, and also may I say to the suggestion which had been appearing on the order paper in the form of a resolution. That was done when the bill was introduced. The government finally did come around at least to establishing the right of the government to appoint a separate full-time minister of external affairs. I regret exceedingly that