

purpose of voting one-twelfth of the estimates. I accordingly move, Mr. Speaker, that you do now leave the chair for the house to resolve itself into committee of supply.

Mr. POULIOT: I would ask the minister whether, when this amount is voted, he will make a second motion for the house to resolve itself into committee of ways and means.

Mr. RHODES: Yes.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Leader of the opposition): I imagine that the minister's motion is made for the purpose of obtaining what is necessary for the payment of the civil servants on the 15th of the month?

Mr. RHODES: Yes.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: If I might avail myself of this opportunity to say so, this motion rather brings up the question of whether this house will not conclude its business by that time. I may say quite frankly that so far as the opposition is concerned we have no desire to protract the session. If we could come to an agreement with regard to the business for the remainder of the session I think it might not be necessary for my hon. friend to ask for this interim supply. I just make this suggestion as an indication of the attitude of the opposition provided we can reach an agreement as to the business for the balance of the session.

Mr. RHODES: Even in that event, Mr. Speaker, there would be some inconvenience because under the new control and audit act we are practically without funds for purposes which require funds from day to day. In view of what has been said by my right hon. friend, however, and in anticipation of any possible announcement that may be made I think perhaps the motion may be withheld until to-morrow. Therefore I would withdraw it.

Motion withdrawn.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

REDISTRIBUTION BILL

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to ask the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) if there has been any change in the intention of the government to proceed with the redistribution bill this session. I ask the question because there seems to be some uncertainty with regard to the matter.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): I think perhaps I can answer that question with more authority to-morrow, but so far as I know at present there is no change.

INQUIRY AS TO POSSIBLE DATE OF PROROGATION

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Leader of the Opposition): I have no intention of asking the government to discuss a matter which they may or may not be ready to take up at the moment; if however the Minister of Finance (Mr. Rhodes) intends to take up interim supply to-morrow perhaps I might ask the Prime Minister if, between now and to-morrow, he would not consider whether it might not be possible to arrange matters so that by sitting mornings or giving up Wednesday night adjournments, or something of the sort, we may have an approximate time fixed for prorogation.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): We have what I suppose is a most disputatious measure to consider in connection with redistribution. The discussion of redistribution might take some time, from the indications I have heard. I have not had an opportunity to investigate the matter fully, but I have been told that may be so.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Hear, hear.

Mr. BENNETT: I thank the hon. gentleman from Quebec East (Mr. Lapointe); he says it is so. Therefore it follows that there may be a lengthy discussion on the question of redistribution. Apart from that I know now of no measure that will take any considerable time of the house. There is a short measure which I indicated I might introduce but which I have not yet discussed fully with my colleagues. It is probable that we shall ask the house to approve of a trade agreement between now and prorogation, and that is the reason I have not made any statement, because I cannot do so to-day with any degree of certainty. I shall endeavour, however, between now and to-morrow to get as full information as possible on all these matters and communicate it to the house.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: My right hon. friend refers to a trade agreement. Is it the one with France he has in mind?

Mr. BENNETT: Yes.

WAYS AND MEANS

CONDITION OF SETTLERS IN ROUYN DISTRICT

Hon. E. N. RHODES (Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee of ways and means.

Mr. JEAN-FRANCOIS POULIOT (Témiscouata): The other day I was unfortunately compelled to submit to the house complaints made by certain settlers and, commenting upon