

think it is customary in any parliament for the Prime Minister necessarily to remain in the House of Commons when bills are being discussed which are in the hands of his colleagues, and particularly in the hands of colleagues as exceptionally competent as those I have the privilege to have around me.

May I say to the hon. member that the motion to sit to-morrow is not for the purpose of driving the house. It is not for the purpose of railroading business through the house, but rather for the very purpose of avoiding both those things. I believe there is a general desire on the part of all hon. members to bring the business of this session to a close, and to see whether it can be done before their majesties arrive or whether there will have to be an adjournment for a shorter or longer time. By giving one extra day for discussion of business I believe we shall be in a better position in the course of the next few days to know whether or not it will be possible to finish the business before their majesties arrive in the city. I may point out that such is the whole purpose of the motion. It is to enable us to see if by giving a little more time to discussion and consideration of public measures and by avoiding the necessity of rushing matters we may, by sitting to-morrow, and perhaps a little longer on some other days, accomplish that end.

Let me make perfectly clear what I said at the beginning of the session. The government does not intend to crowd this House of Commons with respect to public business. If it is the disposition of hon. members, by arrangement among themselves as to which members are to speak on different measures and the like, so to facilitate business that it may be possible to get through earlier than we otherwise would, of course that will be all to the good in shortening the period during which this house will have to remain in session, either before or after their majesties' visit.

But if we cannot get through before their majesties arrive here, I am perfectly sure that we shall be doing greater justice to the public business of this country if we take an adjournment until after their majesties have left Canada, and then have the house resume to discuss matters without any sense of either pressure or confusion. From what hon. members have said to me, I am certain it is the wish of many of them to be in their constituencies when their majesties are passing through. I think it will be expected that the ministers of the crown will be with their majesties in different provinces as the king and queen pass through their respective provinces. I am sure that the public interest will

be centred on the visit of the king and queen and the many matters incidental thereto during the period of time their majesties are here. Generally the public will get a much better appreciation of the care with which this house is discussing public matters if that discussion takes place after their majesties have left rather than at a time when the public mind is occupied, as it will be, with their majesties' visit.

For that reason the government has thought it advisable to adjourn, if necessary, over the entire period of their majesties' visit rather than to attempt a short adjournment and continue later. May I say that in asking the house to adjourn for that period of time we are giving evidence of our desire to avoid any rushing of public business or any confusion. May I remind hon. members that when my predecessor was in office and the silver jubilee of King George V took place in England, the house gave its consent at that time to adjourning over the period of the silver jubilee in order that the Prime Minister might be present in London throughout that time. There was an adjournment of a month and the house came back at the end of that time and resumed its business. If it was desirable at that time to adjourn the house for a month for that particular purpose, there is a much stronger reason for an adjournment at this time. I do not know that there is anything further that I need say at the moment, except that I believe hon. members know that my wish has been to try to meet as much as possible the desire of the house. Probably the best way to decide whether the present motion meets with the wishes of hon. members is to leave it to a division.

Motion agreed to.

### ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

#### EFFECT UPON FEDERAL CONSTITUENCIES OF READJUSTMENTS IN PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

On the orders of the day.

Mr. JEAN-FRANÇOIS POULIOT (Témiscouata) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, in connection with the recent readjustment of electoral divisions in the province of Quebec, I should like to ask the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe) what action the government intends taking in regard to the redistribution of dominion electoral districts, inasmuch as, according to the Elections Act and the Representation Act, the description of dominion constituencies follows that of the provincial electoral divisions. Would the Minister of Justice kindly tell the house what action he intends taking in regard to federal constituencies whose boundaries may have been modified by the