

Hon. Mr. BOWELL moved the suspension of the rule and that the Bill be read the second time.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (B.C.)—Before the Bill is passed, I wish to congratulate the Government and this House on the shortness of the session. It has been a very satisfactory session. We have been busy from the first. It shows what can be done when the Government is prepared with its measures in time. I hope they will be equally prepared next year and that we may look forward to having shorter sessions hereafter than we have had of late years—sessions extending not longer than ninety days. If the work is pushed as vigorously next session as it has been this year, and the Government are prepared with their estimates and measures at the opening, the session need not last longer than ninety days at the outside.

Hon. Mr. POWER—The hon. gentleman from Victoria has every reason to be satisfied with the session. I notice in the Estimates that over \$300,000 has been appropriated to be expended in Victoria and its immediate vicinity. I can readily understand that the session has been exceedingly satisfactory to him.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL—I thank the hon. gentleman from Victoria for the remarks he has made in reference to the action of the Government during the present session, but I can assure him that the length of the session is not always the result of the Government not being prepared with its measures, or of the Budget speech not being delivered at an early day. In the more democratic branch of Parliament time is occupied unsparingly for days and weeks, and sometimes for months, in discussing abstract principles, discussing matters over which the Government have no control whatever, and in this way, to a very great extent, the sessions are prolonged. However, it is not always the fault of those who pursue that course. On behalf of the Government I have to thank the chairmen of the different committees for the assiduity with which they have discharged their duties during the present session. Very little time has been lost by the standing committees in the consideration of the measures submitted to them. For myself, I am extremely thankful

for the courtesy and assistance I have received from every member of the Senate during the session. I feel it all the more from the fact that I entered the House as a stranger—at least to this House—assuming a very responsible position and following a gentleman whose talents and ability were universally recognized; but I have been relieved of anxiety to a very great extent by the assistance received, not only from gentlemen who are in accord with the Government upon their general policy, but also from those who differ from us upon the great questions which divide parties in this country. I can only hope that as long as I occupy my present position we may at the end of every session of Parliament be enabled, as we are now, to congratulate ourselves upon the kindly feeling that exists between all parties. As we are to a very great extent placed in positions where the narrow views of politicians should not prevail, for the purpose of legislating in the public interests without introducing those acrimonious discussions which sometimes take place in the other branch of Parliament, I hope that we shall continue to pursue the same moderate course. If the members of the House are as satisfied and gratified with the conduct of the members representing the Government in the Senate as I am with them, I can only say that we part not only good friends, but with the hope that our intercourse will continue and be of the same agreeable character in the future. (Applause.)

Hon. Mr. POWER—So say we all.

The Bill passed through its final stages.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

### THE PROROGATION.

At three o'clock p.m., His Excellency the Governor-General proceeded in state to the Senate Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne. The members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons and that House being present, the following Bills were assented to, in Her Majesty's name, by His Excellency the Governor-General, viz. :—

An Act respecting the Hamilton Provident and Loan Society.