

Supply—External Affairs

Mr. Fleming: Is that what the hon. member is practising?

Mr. Lesage: No; you are.

Mr. Fleming: Because other countries may seek to start some sort of race in regard to embellishing their embassies in a particular country is no reason why Canada should seek to keep up with the Joneses in a situation like that. Let us look a little further at the furnishings.

An hon. Member: Ten o'clock.

Mr. Harris: I believe it was the general desire of all parties to do what we could to wind up the business if possible.

Mr. Churchill: Why did you have so many of your fellows speak?

Mr. Harris: Because we have not yet come to the point where we are so anxious to close up that we would bar all government members from speaking. If that is the only way that we can wind up parliament then we can discuss it on that basis. I do not know who called ten o'clock and I did not hear it myself, but would it not be possible to continue with this for some time in order to see what progress we could make?

Mr. Nicholson: There had been some hope that we could finish up by the 11th of this month, but that was based on the understanding that we would have to finish this today. As the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre has said, five government members spoke today, several of them reading speeches which took quite a long time. There does not seem to be any chance of getting through now, and there is therefore no point in going on beyond ten o'clock tonight.

Mr. Harris: When we have arrived at ten o'clock with an item almost completed I think it could be said that by sitting a few minutes longer we might be able to complete it.

Mr. Fleming: We are not through with this item yet.

Mr. Harris: If there is any disposition to make suitable arrangements now so that parliament might be prorogued by the end of next week it would hardly seem possible to maintain the ten o'clock closing hour. Even if it was not certain that we could complete a particular item or a particular department I think the extra time could be put in so those who feel they have to speak in the interests of their constituencies would be

able to do so. Perhaps we ought to take the extra time even if we realize that we would have to adjourn an hour later or something like that and still not have carried the item. We would have got behind us some of the discussion which would have to be dealt with anyway in order to ultimately carry the item.

Mr. Nicholson: There was general agreement that we would sit beyond ten o'clock, but we were not able to finish the first item until nearly nine o'clock this evening, and with that situation I think we might as well call it ten o'clock and then see what can be done from now on.

Item stands.

Progress reported.

Resolutions adopted in committee of supply this day reported and concurred in.

Hon. W. E. Harris (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether I might have leave to revert to motions in order to obtain first reading of the amendments to the Customs Tariff pursuant to the resolutions which were passed in May.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Has the minister leave to revert to motions for this purpose?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

CUSTOMS TARIFF

Mr. Harris moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 448, to amend the Customs Tariff.

Mr. Fleming: What is the reason for the long delay in submitting the bill after passing the resolution?

Mr. Harris: I was not satisfied with the wording of some items, and we took a good deal of time to get it to my satisfaction.

Mr. Fleming: Is there anything more than the wording? Are there any substantive changes?

Mr. Harris: Nothing other than the wording.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Harris: Tomorrow I hope we can complete external affairs and go on with the other items that I mentioned for today.

It being five minutes after ten o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.