

Hon. Mr. Hayden: Who is running the Senate?

Hon. Mr. McCutcheon: I do not know. I am just expressing my view.

Hon. A. J. Brooks: Honourable senators, The honourable Leader of the Government in the Senate explained the situation to me before we came into the house. As he has already told us, the probable reason why the bill is not before us now is the situation in Cyprus and the debate which had to take place in the other house yesterday, a debate which I am sure we all felt was necessary.

This is an important bill and will receive, I am sure, careful consideration here. That was my opinion when the honourable Leader of the Government spoke to me, and it still is; and I personally see no objection at all to our meeting again at 9.30 this evening if it is possible and probable that this bill will be here.

If we receive the bill then, I would like to ask the honourable Leader of the Government if it is the intention to have the explanation tonight and the debate continued tomorrow from this side of the house or by any other members who may care to speak.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): Honourable senators, in reply to the honourable Leader of the Opposition, I wish to assure all honourable senators that there is no suggestion whatever that this bill be debated to

a vote or to a decision on second reading this evening.

Hon. Mr. Brooks: No.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): If at 9.30 or thereabouts the bill is available, Senator Hayden has kindly consented to give the explanation, if honourable senators would like to have that done this evening. I am in the hands of the Senate, and if it is desired to continue this debate tonight for a while, certainly that would meet with my concurrence. I would have no objection whatever to the debate being adjourned until tomorrow and further discussion taking place at that time. I want to make that abundantly clear.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

At 9.45 p.m. the sitting was resumed, Hon. David A. Croll, Acting Speaker, in the Chair.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): Honourable senators, I am informed that the House of Commons has not completed its consideration of the bill on federal-provincial fiscal arrangements. I am also informed that there is a general agreement between the two principal parties, and that this bill can be expected to pass tonight. Whether that can be done depends, of course, on the co-operation of other parties.

In the circumstances, I would move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.