

As one who has been sitting in this House for the last 12 or 13 years, I wish to say that in dealing with Bills of this nature, affecting contending parties and the country generally, I have not found that the members here violate their obligations by upholding political parties. For my own part, since I came to this House I have not let political motives interfere with my vote, one way or the other, and I have never been asked or approached by any person who is in another place to vote either for or against any measure. As far as I know, the members on this side of the House are left free to act on their own discretion. I was very sorry to hear political motives ascribed to any person within this House, because I do not believe there is any man on either side of the House who is not prepared to exercise his judgment in preference to that of any political party.

Hon. G. D. ROBERTSON: May I just add one more link to the chain of evidence with reference to the misunderstanding that exists in my honourable friend's mind in reference to matters in caucus? I happened to be one of the comparatively few Senators who attended the caucus the other day to which he referred, and I desire to say to him in all truthfulness, what can be substantiated by others who were present, that the subject of the Grain Act was never mentioned or discussed at that meeting at all. Other matters, as my honourable friend quite well knows, were of more importance at that moment, and this Bill was not mentioned, and there has been no discussion of it in caucus so far as Senators are concerned.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: Honourable gentlemen, the situation is very likely to be cleared up by two o'clock, and I would suggest that we meet at half-past two. Prorogation may take place this afternoon for all we know, and I think by half-past two we will have some knowledge of what is to be done.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: The suggestion that we should adjourn until some time this afternoon, in order that in the interval information may be obtained that possibly will clarify the situation, is one to which I have no objection to offer. However, I desire to ask a question. Yesterday, during the discussion, two opposite sets of opinions with re-

spect to the Grain Bill were presented respectively by the honourable gentleman from Moose Jaw (Hon. Mr. Willoughby) and the honourable member from Saltcoats (Hon. Mr. Calder). This morning the honourable gentleman from Moose Jaw has given the House such information as he has with reference to the set of opinions for which he is the able spokesman in this House. The honourable member from Saltcoats yesterday referred more than once to an unnamed individual who had expressed strong opinions with regard to this matter, and from whom some information or some instructions had been received. May I ask the honourable gentleman from Saltcoats if he can give us any additional information or any further instructions from this unnamed individual that would assist in clarifying the situation?

Hon. Mr. CALDER: I am inclined to think that the honourable gentleman who has just spoken did not catch the full purport of my words. I merely stated that knowledge had come to me to the effect that negotiations were being carried on between the parties interested in this Bill. I was asked by the honourable gentleman from Assiniboia (Hon. Mr. Turriff) to disclose the name of the person who so informed me, and I stated that I did not think it was necessary to pass that information on to the House. By whom those negotiations have been carried on I do not know—there must have been several persons. Up to a certain point Mr. Pitblado was acting for the grain trade in the negotiations; but I know that at a certain point he quit carrying on—why I do not know. He may have been engaged in the negotiations of last night. As to that, I do not know. As to what extent those negotiations have proceeded, I have not the slightest information at the present time.

On motion of Hon. W. B. Ross, the Senate adjourned until 2.30 p.m. this day.

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

The Fifteenth Parliament having been this day dissolved by Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor General, the Senate did not again meet.