

Royal Assent

if I may be permitted to do so, to say a word to all hon. members and especially to Your Honour about what I think has been the remarkable way in which we have terminated this part of the session in these last few days. It does seem to me that, although there have been one or two hot days when the heat was reflected in this chamber, the spirit of co-operation which, I hope, will grow in the latter part of the session, was most evident. As I look over the items which are on the order paper and those which my colleagues insist must be put on it before we adjourn for Christmas, I assure you, sir, that I hope we can take it that every question will be in order, that they will all be short, and that the answers will be shorter still; in fact that we shall get down to business and surprise all of us by getting out in November instead of in December.

I think the events of the last day or so mark a stage in the development of our national institutions. I say this because we have all been conscious of the fact, in the last few years, that there was a duty before this house which was not being performed and which, perhaps, could not be performed. Except for a short backlog which will be dealt with before the present session is over, that is no longer a duty of this house, and I think our consciences will be little easier for that.

I think we all appreciate, sir, the spirit in which you have presided over our deliberations in these first 56 days. It is our hope that before the 100th day of the session is reached we may all go home with the feeling that we have done well for our country.

Mr. Churchill: I should like to associate myself with the non-controversial remarks of the leader of the house in complimenting you on your conduct of the business of this house in circumstances which were, at times, very trying. We fully appreciate the problems which have faced you and the success with which you have kept this institution on the level we expect of it. With all members of the house I also join with the house leader in using that adjective "remarkable" which can be interpreted in many ways. It has been a remarkable session, and our hope is that when the session opens again in the fall we will be able to expect the same interest, activity and vigour that we have shown during the 56 days that have elapsed. I should point out to the Secretary of State that if we commence on the 30th of September and conclude on the 20th of December, which is possible, that would be a 60 day period. With these few remarks, Mr. Speaker, we are anxiously waiting to see you in another place.

Mr. Bert Leboe (Cariboo): Mr. Speaker, I just rise to say that we too are pleased that we have been able to make the progress we have, especially in the last few hours, and we would hope that when we commence again we would have the momentum that we had when we adjourned for the recess. If so, I think that the wishes of hon. gentlemen across the way will be carried out. I should like to say on behalf of our group, Mr. Speaker, that we are very pleased with the way in which you have conducted the business of the house and through you we would like to present our best wishes to your deputy and to the deputy chairman of committees.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, we are happy to join in the unanimity that we are enjoying in these closing moments of this part of the session. We are happy to join in the felicitations to Your Honour and through Your Honour to all members of the house. We too are pleased with the progress that has been made in recent days and we look forward to our return at the end of September or earlier, as the case may be. If the government will just bring in the kind of legislation that all members of the house want to support, the co-operation will be wonderful and we could well have one of the best sessions we have ever had in the history of the country.

(Translation):

Hon. Azellus Denis (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, may I add a few words in French to wish you, and all hon. members and staff, "bonnes vacances".

I am convinced that for two or three days, at least, members will not be asking me for post offices or mail contracts. On the other hand, I am sure they will go through their ridings to find out if new post offices could not be erected somewhere or new mail contracts awarded.

When all those requests have been received, there will surely be enough post offices in Canada.

(Text):

Mr. Speaker: May I just include in these kind remarks the Clerk and the Clerk Assistants. We in turn thank you. We try to do our best. Sometimes in the last few days there has been fairly vigorous activity, and I should like to extend a Scotch invitation to cross the hall to room 16 just as soon as we have completed the proceedings.

On motion of Mr. Pickersgill the house adjourned at 10.56 p.m. until Monday, September 30.