

with which we have nothing to do. The House of Commons might very well regard all our criticism in that respect as simply impertinence, as we would regard speeches by members of the House of Commons as to the manner in which we should conduct our business here. Sometimes we have occasion to speak rather sharply about what they say of us, and they talk very freely about the Senate in regard to adjournments; but I do not think they undertake to point out to us the way in which we should amend our rules with regard to conducting debates. I think we have already had too much discussion on the question of Senate reform for the dignity of this House, and this debate might have been very well omitted from beginning to end, as it has been nothing more or less than a criticism of the House of Commons. Having made his criticism, and elicited a discussion on the question, I think my hon. friend will surely be inclined to drop his motion and not press it to a vote, because I certainly would feel called upon to vote against it if it were so pressed.

Hon. Mr. McMULLEN—My hon. friend from Halifax thought that the course taken by my resolution was to some extent dictating to the House of Commons as to how they should conduct their business. I think he certainly must have read between the lines to find anything in the resolution that makes, directly or indirectly, any insinuation in that regard. I simply ask by the resolution to appoint a committee to confer with them with regard to the length of the session. What was my reason for doing that? There is not a public journal in this country that has not declared that the sessions are too long, that the discussions in the House of Commons will eventually result in driving all the good men from that Chamber, because they cannot afford to remain away from their private business for such a long time. We know that is the view. Several gentlemen in the House of Commons have told me that they will be forced to decline the nomination if parliament is to be length-

ened out in this manner. The hon. gentleman from Hastings said that when I was there I contributed very much to the length of the session and to the number of pages of 'Hansard' that I filed. I did my duty as I humbly knew it to be—my duty when I was a member of the opposition in the House of Commons. I endeavoured to do it under my leader, and as far as I was concerned, I endeavoured to watch my hon. friend who was then a Minister of the Crown, and it took watchful care on my part to see that everything was right, and I hope he appreciated my efforts in that direction.

The hon. gentleman from Marshfield also thinks we are dictating to the Commons, and has thrown out the insinuation that perhaps I, as a member of the House, and a new member, am a little too fresh. I should go behind hon. gentlemen like himself who have sat here for so many years and ask his permission before I place a notice on the Order Paper and bring it before this Chamber at all. Young members coming into this House should keep behind. They should virtually hang on to the coat tails of those who have been here for many years, and not dare to open their mouths unless with the consent of older members; they have got to get permission before making any move. Any gentleman who is called by a commission to come to this House, has a perfect right to introduce any measure he thinks is in the interests of the country, and I have done this from a patriotic desire to serve my country, because I believe it is a move in the right direction, and I believe that changes can be made that would be very much in the interests of the country. I entirely agree with the remarks of the Minister of Trade and Commerce. I believe that if 'Hansard' was entirely abolished, or if it was cut down to a point at which the verbiage would be thrown out, and nothing but the kernel of the debate would be included and printed, the gentlemen who dealt out those unlimited speeches would learn after a while that it was no use, because they would not be printed. If we can get a change of that kind, it would be a good one. You have