

Electoral Boundaries Commissions

member for Lapointe. I think it was a very good one.

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, just so the record will be complete and there will be no misunderstanding of our position, may I say we believe that any question that could be asked with regard to the bill to follow the resolution in order No. 51 can be asked when the bill to follow the resolution in order No. 35 is sent to the standing committee. We also think it is far better to spend a great deal of time in detailed discussion after we have the bill and know its details. For that reason we would agree to pass the resolution so that we could then have the bill before us.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there agreement that order No. 51 will be called at this time with the understanding that the resolution stage will be disposed of immediately?

Mr. Grégoire: No, Mr. Speaker.

REDISTRIBUTIONPROVISION FOR BOUNDARIES COMMISSIONS AND
READJUSTMENT OF REPRESENTATION

The house resumed, from Thursday, April 23, consideration in committee of Bill No. C-72, to provide for the establishment of electoral boundaries commissions to report upon the readjustment of the representation of the provinces in the House of Commons and to provide for the readjustment of such representation in accordance therewith—Mr. Pickersgill (for Mr. Pearson)—Mr. Lamoureux in the chair.

On clause 6—*Appointment of chairman.*

The Chairman: When the committee rose on April 23 last, clause 6, with an amendment thereto proposed by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, was being considered. Is the committee ready for the question on the amendment?

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Chairman, I think before we resume our consideration of this item I should like to make a suggestion to the committee. I suggest that rather than continue at this particular time today, since we hope this bill will come up again, we suspend the consideration of clause 6 and perhaps also the consideration of clauses 7, 8, 9 and 13. Then, we should try to dispose of the other clauses, which are I think largely non-contentious, in the short time that remains this evening. I think possibly if we had an opportunity between now and the next time this bill comes up to have certain consultations we might make greater progress with the clause we

[Mr. Churchill.]

were considering. I am just offering this as a suggestion.

The Chairman: Is the suggestion acceptable to the committee?

Mr. Churchill: It sounds like a very reasonable suggestion, Mr. Chairman, but there may be some clauses which hon. members who do not happen to be in the house this evening might wish to discuss. I would be content to follow the proposal of the Minister of Transport with the slight proviso that if some absent member indicated, when he returned, that he wished to deal with one of the clauses which had been passed he might have that opportunity. The thing I fear right at the moment is that we might make a mistake. We are coming to this rather hurriedly tonight and we were expecting to continue the discussion of the amendment rather than proceed with the other clauses. I do not want members to be embarrassed by finding that this evening, at five minutes after ten, the committee rushed along with the clauses which might be of considerable interest to members who are not here.

Mr. Pickersgill: I appreciate that many of us did not think we would reach this bill this evening. I do not believe anyone would want to deprive any member of the opportunity to say whether or not he had any serious objection to these clauses, so they might be carried on the understanding that if any hon. member wished to make some serious observations relating to some of these clauses he could make them on a later clause that had not been passed.

Mr. Knowles: I should like to support the suggestion that has emerged within the last few minutes. Perhaps clause 32, which seems to refer to all the clauses in the bill, might be the one upon which any such missed contributions could be picked up.

The Chairman: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Pickersgill: Perhaps we could call clause 10.

The Chairman: Shall clause 10 carry?

Clause agreed to.

On clause 11—*Return of dominion statistician.*

Mr. Fisher: I just wanted to ask a question for the purpose of seeking information. Are we to assume from the information the minister gave previously, and the experience some