

*Business of the House*

Mr. Chairman, I feel that by setting up five subcommissions to represent British Columbia and the surrounding area, the prairies, Ontario, Quebec and the maritime provinces, and possibly a sixth one for the North-west Territories, we could study the problems intelligently, because we would then have within the committee or commission all the elements that might differ across the country, and I think everyone would be treated fairly.

Mr. Chairman, may I call it six o'clock?

[Text]

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Is there not a disposition on the part of the committee to let the resolution go through so that we could introduce the bills?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. MacLean (Queens):** No, Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to say it is not feasible to meet with the request of the Secretary of State at the moment. There are still a number of people who wish to speak.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** On the resolution rather than on the bills?

**Mr. MacLean (Queens):** That is right.

Progress reported.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Mr. Churchill:** I should like to ask the house leader whether he can let us know what will be coming on Friday. We are looking forward with great expectation to hearing the minister of external affairs tomorrow, but what is happening on Friday?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I expect, as the hon. gentleman suggests, that tomorrow will be entirely taken up with external affairs, but there will be some other minister available if hon. members should run out of speeches before the end of the day. On Friday, it is

proposed, if it is the wish of the house, to abstract the estimates of the Department of External Affairs from the committee of supply and refer them to the committee on external affairs. The first item of business after the orders of the day would then be interim supply, and the government would be asking for one month's supply. If the federal-provincial conference is still going on I shall ask the indulgence of the house to present the interim supply measure on behalf of my colleague the Minister of Finance.

When that has been completed we will take the estimates of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources and we would have other departments available—the Department of Public Works would be the next one available, I think, up to five o'clock. At seven o'clock we would resume consideration of the estimates of the Department of Industry, where we left off last Friday.

**Mr. Smallwood:** How about agriculture?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** It is hoped the estimates of that department will be available next week.

**Mr. Smallwood:** How about the post office?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** That will come in its turn.

**Mr. Churchill:** Can we be absolutely sure that at seven o'clock on Friday we shall be considering the estimates of the Department of Industry and the other items under that ministry?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** As nearly sure as, in this vale of tears, any assurance can be given. If the minister drops dead, say, or if some dire calamity of that sort should occur, the arrangements might have to be changed. But as far as I can foresee now, I give that assurance.

**Mr. Knowles:** If that happens you will be to blame.

It being four minutes after six o'clock the house adjourned, without question put.