

in their hands. It is reported from Montreal this afternoon that a lawyer, an official of the wartime prices and trade board, along with another man has been arrested because he had received at least \$1,000 as a bribe for issuing blank accommodation rate cards for hotel rooms. It appears that this official is in charge of hotel accommodation rates for one district in Montreal and that he was caught in the act of delivering these blank rate cards to a certain hotel in the Windsor street district. The hotelkeeper apparently informed as to what was going on and the information which we have and which the press has is that at least \$1,000 in marked money changed hands in one particular transaction in that connection. I understand that these men are to be arraigned, if they have not already been arraigned, and will be charged early next week.

That is an indication of the extent to which abuses can creep in and are creeping into the administration of these controls. It is possibly an inevitable consequence when you expand your administrative or controlling force as must be done with widespread measures of control such as we have had in this country. I wonder if the Minister of Justice (Mr. Ilesley) would care to say something this afternoon about that situation, because I think it is of vital importance to the country. Perhaps it is not fair to introduce it just before six o'clock without giving him some opportunity to make an explanation. If it is the wish of the right hon. gentleman and it meets

with the feelings of the house I suggest that I be allowed to adjourn the debate now, and the minister could make a short statement.

Mr. ILSLEY: I have no information about the facts; this is the first information I have had.

Mr. FULTON: May I be permitted then to adjourn the debate.

Motion agreed to and debate adjourned.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. ST. LAURENT moved the adjournment of the house.

He said: When we meet again on April 14 the first order of government business will be the motion to go into supply, not for the purpose of dealing with supply, but for the purpose of opening up two departments and giving hon. members, if they have any matters that they consider of sufficient importance to take up the time of the house, an opportunity of raising such matters.

Mr. KNOWLES: Do not make that invitation too wide.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: I will repeat what I said before, that I would like to trust to the feeling of responsibility of hon. members not to take up unnecessarily the time of the house when there is so much urgent legislation to be dealt with. I feel sure that hon. members will feel that sense of responsibility.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 5.55 p.m., until Monday, April 14.
