

before us should occupy the undivided attention of the House for a week if properly discussed, and I do hope that the leader of the Government will state to the House that it is not in the public interest that there should be any longer adjournment than is necessitated by the Easter holidays. If the adjournment does take place there are Bills before the Divorce Committee that cannot be proceeded with; members of the Committee will not stay here and proceed with the consideration of these important questions during an adjournment.

HON. MR. ALMON—When did the Divorce Committee meet last?

HON. MR. KAULBACH—Some time last week. We had a meeting since then, and, in consequence of the evidence not being printed, the committee felt that they were not prepared to discuss the merits of the Bills, or decide upon the important questions which they involved. I say the effect of this adjournment will be to postpone the consideration of those questions before the committee, and will no doubt have the effect of depriving those persons who are looking to this Senate for the passage of these Bills of the relief which they seek from Parliament.

HON. MR. MCINNES (B. C.)—I move in amendment, that when the House adjourns on Thursday next it stand adjourned until Wednesday, the 9th of April. I am quite willing that an adjournment should take place, but I think that ten or twelve days will be ample to enable my hon. friend who made this motion to go to his home, and remain there a couple of days, and return.

HON. MR. ALMON—I am very much confused by the different amendments. I would like to know what the leader of the House has to say to these propositions, and also how senators will be treated on the Intercolonial Railway. When Sir Charles Tupper had charge of the Intercolonial Railway, the members of this House had free passage over that line. Under the system that prevails now we travel at half fare. If we put on white chokers and called ourselves "reverend"—and I do not see why we should not—we would get the same rate. If I was to travel as a drummer selling boots and shoes I would get the same rate, although

I have less baggage. I hear that the management of the road has been very much improved of late by adopting suggestions that I have made in this House from time to time. For instance, I told them time and again that they could shorten the journey between Montreal and Halifax by having breakfast at one place instead of two. They used to have breakfast at Truro and Amherst; now they have it at only one of these places. I also told them that they could save time by taking water at stations where they had to stop for other purposes. I should have thought the Minister of Railways and all his deputies would have waited on me and thanked me for all the suggestions I gave them, and which they have adopted, by which they have shortened the journey between Montreal and Halifax some six hours. We have now only one night in the Pullman, whereas we had two before my suggestions were adopted. I should like to ask what the leader of the House thinks about making the Intercolonial Railway free for senators travelling to and from the capital in connection with the public business. I do not agree with the hon. member from Lunenburg on the question of consulting the people on public questions. For instance, I should like to meet the people of Halifax and ascertain whether they prefer the Harvey Short Line or the one from Rivière du Loup to Moncton. Halifax wants both; but if they were told that they could get only one they might state which they preferred. I do not know that the hon. member from Lunenburg would have any occasion to consult his constituents. There is no canal or railway in which they are interested. There is a little packet which goes to Halifax and furnishes communication with civilisation. We who live in civilised communities would like to go and find out what our constituents think on public questions.

HON. MR. POWER—I am in favor of the amendment moved by the hon. member from New Westminster. It has been the custom to adjourn for about twelve days at Easter in past Sessions. That is all that the hon. member proposes. The House of Commons, as I understand, will adjourn for a week.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—No; no.