September 26, 1967

COMMONS DEBATES

contrary, I am glad and happy when everything goes well and smoothly and everything is considered in great detail but, in this case, there is a matter about which I should like to get some answers which I have not been able to receive in committee because I did not sit on the committee.

In order to allow the minister to carry on with the consideration of his bill, I am prepared to study the rest of the bill except clause 3 which will stand until tomorrow; otherwise, Mr. Chairman, I call it ten o'clock.

[English]

Mr. Starr: Mr. Chairman, my offer was conditional upon our passing the bill completely tonight. In view of what the hon. member has said, it is obvious that he does not wish the bill to be passed this evening.

Progress reported.

[Translation]

Mr. Grégoire: On a point of privilege, Mr. Chairman—

An hon. Member: Order.

Mr. Grégoire: On a point of privilege, Mr. Chairman—

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: Order, please-

[English]

order; the only thing that would be in order at this time would be for somebody to ask what the business of the house will be tomorrow.

Mr. Starr: We know that.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, under the new and efficient management of the house these things are all well known.

Mr. Fulton: In order to facilitate the debate, Mr. Speaker, I would ask what estimates were arranged for tomorrow.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I have not had an opportunity to speak to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Nicholson) about the request conveyed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Starr) to deal with a specific item. However, I hope that before—

Mr. Fulton: It is wheat tomorrow, is it not, and not housing?

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

Mr. Starr: I think tomorrow we will be dealing with the estimates of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the estimates of the Department of Trade and Commerce, item 1.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the house under provisional standing order 39A deemed to have been moved.

[Translation]

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS—DISCUSSION WITH HER MAJESTY RESPECTING POSSIBLE CONFERENCE

Mr. Auguste Choquette (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, once again I appreciate the great generosity of my distinguished colleague, the member for Kootenay East (Mr. Byrne), who is so concerned with the matters I submit in this house, that every evening after ten o'clock he remains in the house to give these points a very friendly and very efficient consideration.

Mr. Speaker, the matter I should like to bring forward tonight offers a great deal of interest, for the good reason that we are living exciting hours in Canada.

The major problem in the present context is that of Canadian unity.

I should like to make a digression to point out to the house very prejudicial publicity. I am thinking of such serious papers as the Toronto *Telegram* and others with a wide circulation, which print headlines such as this one: "How will Quebec separate" and the picture of Pierre Bourgault on the first page. I think that newspapers such as these are more deleterious to Canadian unity than all the wild statements that can be heard here and there throughout the country.

It is unfortunate, Mr. Chairman, that such disproportionate attention is given to movements that, in fact, express the opinion of but a very small minority. I am afraid to state that, in the province of Quebec, the majority, and a large one at that, hold the view that Canadian unity is priceless and should be safeguarded.

I should like to take advantage again of this digression to say that, if Mr. René Levesque is a separatist candidate in Quebec, he will be beaten, and soundly so, and I am not afraid to say so.

However, if problems crop up in Quebec, it is not up to René Lévesque to speak on behalf of Quebec. There are federal members