

*Business of the House*

**Mr. Riley:** Would you like some old copies of *Hansard* to read?

**Mr. Cardiff:** According to the constitution it appears to be necessary to put in 65 days before we can collect our indemnity. In my opinion this session should never have been called at all. It is the second session in one year.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but it seems to me that he has drifted far from the principle of the amendment.

**Mr. Cardiff:** Well, I certainly want to abide by the rules, and I do not want to say anything that is not in conformity with the amendment before the house. But the fact of the matter is that because we waste so much time, surely it is in order—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Cardiff:** Surely it is in order to say that I agree with the amendment that we sit tonight until twelve o'clock. This is not the first day's performance that has gone on in the house, and to no advantage. We have wasted more than one day.

**Mr. Lesage:** You have.

**Mr. Cardiff:** No, I have not. If the government had brought down its legislation in an orderly way, if it had brought down the important legislation when it should have been brought down, there would have been plenty of time to discuss and dispose of it. But because they brought it in at an hour when they thought the opposition would be weakened sufficiently—

**Mr. Garson:** The proceedings speak for themselves on that point.

**Mr. Cardiff:** They thought the opposition in the dying hours of the session would be weak, that it would fold up, and that the bill would be passed without any argument. Now they are finding the opposition is just a little stiffer than they expected. I do not wish to detain the house at length. I think perhaps this will be a good lesson to the government to not try this kind of performance on the opposition again because the opposition, apart from numbers, are just a little stronger than the government think they are. I should like to warn the government to adjust their program of business for the next session of parliament and bring in their more important measures at the commencement of the session, not toward the end. If they do so perhaps they will get more co-operation, and it will be a lot better for the country at large.

[Mr. Hosking.]

**Mr. George H. Hees (Broadview):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to hear some of the members on the government side, especially the cabinet ministers—

**Mr. Fournier (Hull):** You don't say!

**Mr. Hees:** I would be very glad to sit down if one of the cabinet ministers would get up and express an opinion about this matter, because I think it is very important. Here we have a proposition before us that we should pass all the legislation the house still has to deal with in an all-night marathon session. Every member of the house who has stayed up all night at one time or another knows the state one's mind gets in around two, three or four o'clock in the morning. He knows perfectly well that the kind of consideration any hon. member could give legislation of any nature, let alone vitally important legislation of the type that is still to come before the house, is not the kind of consideration such legislation merits. I feel confident that when the motion comes to a vote all members of the cabinet will stand up and vote for it.

**An hon. Member:** All the Liberal members too.

**Mr. Hees:** They of course will vote for it, but I would be very distressed as a member of the house, whether in the opposition or on the government side, to see the cabinet, who are responsible for the conduct of affairs in the house, stand up and vote for a measure that will just make this House of Commons a shame and a farce, that will put legislation on the statute books for which we will be able to feel nothing but shame. It will not be the kind of legislation the people who sent us here expect us to pass.

I should like to hear some of the members of the cabinet express an opinion on this matter. Do they feel that jamming all this important legislation through in an all-night marathon exhaustion session is the way the business of the house should be conducted? I think the house deserves some leadership from the cabinet. I believe we would like to hear them express an opinion on this question, and say whether there are good reasons for passing legislation in this way. If they feel it is the right way to conduct the business of the country I for one would be very interested to hear such views expressed.

**Mr. Fournier (Maisonnette-Rosemont):** In your hearing.

**Mr. Hees:** I should like to hear the members of the cabinet express their opinion.

**Mr. Fournier (Maisonnette-Rosemont):** Just wait and see.