

question which has been brought to the attention of the Speaker, he can be given the right to do so.

Right Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I submit the hon. member (Mr. Heaps) is altogether wrong. The matter is entirely in the discretion of the Speaker, and the rule the hon. member has read does not at all substantiate his claim.

Paragraph 2 states that the member desiring to make such a motion rises in his place, asks leave to move the adjournment of the house for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, and states the matter. This the hon. member has done. Then, paragraph 3 states:

He then hands a written statement of the matter proposed to be discussed to Mr. Speaker, who, if he thinks it in order—

That is, if Mr. Speaker thinks it in order—  
—and of urgent public importance—

Still referring to the Speaker—  
—reads it out.

That is, if he considers it a matter of public importance, Mr. Speaker reads it out, "and asks whether the member has the leave of the house." Then the paragraph states:

If objection is taken, Mr. Speaker requests those members who support the motion to rise in their places and, if more than twenty members rise accordingly, Mr. Speaker calls upon the member who has asked for leave.

That is to say, if Mr. Speaker had thought the matter was in order, or of urgent public importance, he would have read the motion to the house. Then if objection were taken, but twenty members rose in their places, the hon. member would have had authority to discuss the matter. As it is, the Speaker has declared that this is not a matter of urgent public importance. And may I add, as my own view, that not only is it not a matter of urgent public importance that it be discussed, but it is a matter of urgent public importance that it be not discussed.

#### SHOP CARDS REGISTRATION

##### PROVISION FOR REGISTRATION OF DISTINCTIVE CARDS OF LABOUR UNIONS AND PREVENTING UNAUTHORIZED USE

Hon. FERNAND RINFRET (Secretary of State) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 22, respecting the registration of shop cards by labour unions.

He said: Mr. Speaker, this bill is designed to establish a system for the registration of shop cards by labour unions, and authorizes the keeping of a register of shop cards. It prescribes the conditions upon which regis-

[Mr. Blackmore.]

tration may be granted, and provides that a labour union may authorize the use of any shop cards registered by it under agreements for the use of the cards. It provides machinery for the cancellation of registrations and for correction of the register.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

#### THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE

##### CONGRATULATIONS TO RIGHT HON. MR. LAPOINTE UPON THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ELECTION TO PARLIAMENT

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, before proceeding with the business of the day I should like on behalf of those with whom I am associated to convey to the right hon. the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe) our heartiest congratulations upon the celebration of the thirty-fourth anniversary of his election to the House of Commons.

Thirty-four years is a long time in the life of any man; looking back, it must seem to the right hon. gentleman a very long time indeed. It is a fact to be remembered by all, and especially by the younger members, that the right hon. gentleman, who came here with little knowledge of the English language, by persistence and perseverance has made himself one of the most complete masters of the English language in this chamber. This should be a source of inspiration to the younger members of the house.

During the period of thirty-four years that has elapsed since he came to this chamber the right hon. gentleman has travelled far. We have not always agreed with him, and looking back I see less reason than ever why we should have—perhaps he would be the first to admit the correctness of that statement. He has made great progress, and, under Providence, has been permitted to play a not unimportant part in the life of our country. It is well that, where possible, continuity should be preserved in the representation of constituencies. The right hon. gentleman has been able to give an example of the affection and regard in which it may be possible for a member to be held by his constituents, and the fact that he has not always represented the same constituency goes to prove the universality of the affection in which he is held in his native province.

We congratulate the right hon. gentleman because he has served with distinction his day and generation, not only his own province but the country as a whole. In the profession to which we both belong, he has added lustre