

OAS. We can talk about the Government that did not give a darn about what is happening to older people, the Government which did not bother to consult.

I think, along with my colleague from Montreal-Saint-Marie, that perhaps this is the best think to have happened. Not only did the Government precipitate the organizing of the grey power, it now wants to give them a day to speak out. Maybe we will end up with the best possible deal.

If the Government is so concerned, which I wish it was but it is not, about the well-being of senior citizens, then show that concern by legislating the money we need for spouses' allowances to cover the 80,000 people who were left out because they were either single, divorced or separated. That is a fine way to be equalitarian, to treat people equally, particularly in light of Section 15 which we brought in and which the Government fought—

**Mr. Gurbin:** Why are they still there, Sheila?

**Mrs. Finestone:** Why is who still there?

**Mr. Gurbin:** Those people who were left out?

**Mrs. Finestone:** They are not voting for you, I can assure you.

**Mr. Gurbin:** They are there because you left them there. You left them hanging for years.

**Mrs. Finestone:** The Government's attitude is that it can, without consultation, determine what our seniors need in the way of health care, housing and transportation. The Government has cut federal-provincial transfer payments.

Yes, I know, you are going to tell me you have added dollars but you have not added anything to the provinces' net purchasing power. You have created a lot of problems around the educational and health institutions across the land.

● (1830)

I am not pleased, Mr. Speaker I certainly am not going to speak against a day for the elderly in our society. I think that is great. We are going to have a great big festival when we can celebrate an unconscionable, unthinking, and cold-hearted group in our society, the Progressive Conservatives.

**Mr. Elzinga:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am curious and ask for some direction. I am not going to get into the hypocrisy that the Liberal party is presently dealing with.

**Mr. Caccia:** That's not a point of order.

**Mr. Elzinga:** I would like to receive some guidance from you, Sir. The Member for Sudbury (Mr. Frith) consented to the referral to committee of this motion for the establishment of a senior citizens' day, being the second Sunday in June. I am not sure whether, in the event that the Liberal Members opposite continue to talk, this motion will die at 6.41, or whether it will go to committee. I seek your guidance as to

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which is the case. The hypocrisy of the opposite side will really shine through in the event that this motion does die.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest):** Order. In response to the question of the Hon. Member for Pembina (Mr. Elzinga), according to the order of reference on which the House agreed, we will go to 6.41 and I will put the question to the House at that time without any vote.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I was part of the agreement which we understood to have been adopted by the House. Indeed we go to 6.41. At that time there could be a vote, but it will be a voice vote rather than a recorded vote.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest):** Resuming debate, the Hon. Member for Richmond-Wolfe (Mr. Tardif).

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Alain Tardif (Richmond-Wolfe):** Mr. Speaker, it is both a pleasure and an honour to take part in this discussion.

[*English*]

**Mr. Elzinga:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I do not wish to make a nuisance of myself, and I wish to acknowledge the outstanding contribution you are making to this House. However, I find it rather odd that when a Conservative Member rises after a Liberal Member has spoken another Liberal Member would be recognized.

**Mr. Althouse:** Nobody else is standing.

**Mr. Deans:** Who rose?

**Mr. Caccia:** He has been recognized now.

**Mr. Deans:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order, if I may.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest):** Order, please, all Members. The Hon. Member for Pembina (Mr. Elzinga) brings up the fact that there may have been another Member rising at that time. The fact is that the Chair did not see that Member at that time and recognized the Member for Richmond-Wolfe (Mr. Tardif). I am very sorry if that has caused an inconvenience, but that is the situation and we will resume debate with the Member for Richmond-Wolfe.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Tardif:** As I said, Mr. Speaker, I listened with much interest to the Hon. Member for Beauharnois-Salaberry (Mr. Hudon) who, through his remarks, has clearly demonstrated that, like his Party, he has entirely lost contact with reality.

This PC Member has just told the House: Mr. Speaker, I am against indexation. But to make such a statement in the House in 1985 when dealing with our senior citizens is simply outrageous. For him to state publicly that he is against indexation is simply odious.

And to use that term he just did use... Mr. Speaker, whoever knows the way senior citizens live... The senior