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Ms. McLaughlin: I noted also that the right hon. Leader of the Opposition used to write a column in the *Ubysey* called "Chalk Talk With Chick Turner". Since we do sometimes go back to the successes of our youth as we move on to new things I will now be looking for a column entitled, perhaps, "Straight Talk from Bay Street on Free Trade", or something like that.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh!

Ms. McLaughlin: I do want to say sincerely that it has been a privilege to serve in this House with the right hon. Leader of the Opposition. I want to tell the Leader of the Opposition and his family what Ed Broadbent said to me when I spoke to him. He said: "If I were to sum up the Leader of the Opposition I would say he is a fine man, an honourable politician and a great Canadian".

We add our best wishes for your future and that of your family.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—St. Barbe—Baie Verte): Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for all members of the Liberal caucus today when I say to John Turner that notwithstanding the turbulence of days gone by and notwithstanding the preoccupation with the days ahead of us, each and every one of us has been proud, exceptionally proud, to stand with you, sir, through two general elections.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Tobin: In the history of every political party, in particular one that has been as successful as ours over the decades, there must from time to time—and the Prime Minister alluded to this—be a period of opposition. The forces of history, forces that are greater than any one individual, set of individuals, or organization deem that there must be a period of opposition.

The challenge of leadership in those times is one of renewal and rebirth. In that regard, John Turner, you have fulfilled your mandate as leader of our party with integrity, total commitment, courage and, I believe, with great success.

Many of us on this side of the House and in this caucus have on some days and on some issues failed to persuade you, sir, to our personal point of view. But none of us has ever doubted that no matter what the day or what the

issue, you have always made your decision based on deep personal conviction and with courage for what you believe to be in the best interest of Canada and, indeed, the best interest of the party, the Liberal Party of Canada of which you have been leader.

You are a House of Commons man through and through. You have achieved that rare distinction in politics where not only your colleagues in this caucus, but indeed your contemporaries on all sides of the House, acknowledge your commitment to the institution of Parliament.

Many men and women from every part of Canada have the privilege to serve in this place, but few of us, very few, ever come to symbolize the institution at its best. You are one of the few. In that sense, you, John Turner, will always remain an important part of this place.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

• (1430)

Mr. Tobin: Mr. Speaker, may I also report to you and my colleagues in all parties in the House, on behalf of the Liberal Party in Parliament, that we have unanimously endorsed the recommendation of our party leader that the member for Windsor West become, effective today, Leader of the Opposition.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Tobin: I want to assure you, Mr. Speaker, and all colleagues that under the dynamic leadership of our colleague for Windsor West, we shall remain an effective and responsible opposition in the Parliament of Canada.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Hon. Herb Gray (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I think under the circumstances I could be permitted a minute or two to respond to the kind words of our caucus chairman and to join in the tribute to the right hon. member for Vancouver Quadra.

As I said outside the House earlier today, I heard the announcement of the right hon. member for Vancouver Quadra to our caucus this morning with mixed emotions. There was the feeling of sadness that we would no longer have his courageous and supportive leadership, we would no longer have his capacity for friendship, encouragement and support. At the same time, we know that we