

Loyal Opposition". What are our functions? We have been criticized for taking the position we have. I am pleased that I can stand here tonight and take the attack. But what are our functions?

Mr. Harquail: What functions?

Mr. Woolliams: The hon. member asks "What functions?" How would he know a function? Being a sheep with the Liberals it is very easy to follow, especially coming from the riding he does. I know it. There are safe Tory ridings and there are safe Liberal ridings. It is very easy. I can understand his frustrations. If I sat where he did I would be frustrated too. He must be silent. He doesn't speak. He is not even allowed to think. He just follows like a sheep.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Woolliams: In dealing with this bill, the functions of the Official Opposition are comprehensive and important.

Mr. Harquail: When are you going to start functioning as an opposition?

Mr. Woolliams: Well, any time you want to come over. We have lost some members to your side but I am sure we are going to gain some from yours. It may be a realigning of party policy. But I will put one question to you: Have you stood in your place? Have you made a speech on this bill tonight?

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Woolliams: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. I am tempted to break the rules. But one has to break rules when dealing with men who speak through the bottoms of their pants.

Some hon. Members: Oh!

Mr. Harquail: When are you going to deal with the bill?

Mr. Woolliams: I am dealing with the criticism levelled at the opposition.

An hon. Member: You can do that.

Mr. Woolliams: I thank the hon. member for that compliment. I cannot return the compliment because I don't think he is a good backbencher. He is too silent.

The functions of the Official Opposition are comprehensive and important and cannot and must not be limited to the definition given 120 years ago—

An hon. Member: What's that?

Mr. Woolliams: And, by the way, Paul Martin who is now the High Commissioner in London—

An hon. Member: Tell us about the bill!

Mr. Woolliams: Do members over there intend to holler and shout all through my speech? I will tell the hon. member what I will do.

Metric System

Mr. Harquail: I have watched you do that for years. I have been listening to you do that ever since I arrived here.

Mr. Woolliams: Well, I have watched you. You don't have to sit here, go back to your office, you idiot!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Paproski: Go back to your seat, at least.

Mr. Harquail: You are not running this House yet.

Mr. Woolliams: I am not running it yet but—

Mr. Harquail: And you never will be.

Mr. Woolliams: I put this question to the hon. member through you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad he has gone back to his seat. He is starting to learn the rules. What contribution has he ever made to this parliament since he came here?

Some hon. Members: Oh!

Mr. Harquail: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Your Honour may have observed the unparliamentary remarks made in the course of the hon. member's contribution tonight. Since he did direct a question to me, I am very pleased to refer him to *Hansard* where he will find I have attempted to put on record the negative position adopted on most issues by the hon. member's party, which is purported to be the Loyal Official Opposition. That party has, apparently, no positive view on any of the issues before us. I may say I have spoken positively about transport problems, about maritime concerns—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I might bring it to the attention of the hon. member for Restigouche (Mr. Harquail) that under the relevant standing order a question can be addressed to a member who has the floor, but an hon. member cannot rise to answer a question directed to him by an hon. member who has the floor. So I am afraid the hon. member is not permitted to give an answer to the question directed to him except by seeking the floor himself in due time, and answering the question then if he wishes to do so. I do not think the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams) should be interrupted by an answer to a question he has asked in the course of his speech.

Mr. Woolliams: I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for putting things in a proper perspective. The hon. member who interrupted me suggested I had not put forward anything positive. Let me respond to that suggestion in the light of what I was saying about the functions of the opposition. I rose two weeks ago in the private members' hour in an effort to change a 150-year-old rule whereby a child of only seven years could be convicted of an offence. I asked for an amendment to be made to the law. And I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, what the hon. member and his friends did because they have no heart, no feeling for what happens to the kids in training schools and penitentiaries. They talked that bill out! That is the hon. member's contribution to parliament.