

Total abolishment would doom the regions to certain further abuse from future Governments. Total abolishment would also involve asking that dottering bit player to fall on his own sword which has, until recently, remained unsheathed. But more than that, Mr. Speaker, total abolishment would remove the possibility of a responsible second chamber with equal elected provincial representation. So I think my colleague the Hon. Member for Edmonton South and I are paddling the same canoe on this issue. We only differ on when we should arrive at the rapids.

I will conclude my comments, Mr. Speaker, by saying that a few years ago I recall an Opposition Member of Parliament,

The Constitution Acts, 1867 to 1982

probably one of those wise Conservatives our nation has come to know and love, saying that, "While Pierre Elliot Trudeau fiddled with the Constitution, the fire went out of the Canadian economy". Those fires are only now being rekindled. Employment initiatives, not Senate reform, are of paramount importance to the citizens of Canada.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hour provided for consideration of Private Member's Business has now expired.

It being five o'clock p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(2) this House stands adjourned until Tuesday, May 21, 1985, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).

The House adjourned at 5 p.m.
