Supply

be true for the present. After we have had public hearings on the Accord, the Premiers can get back together and improve the Accord in ways in which Canadians have identified.

Parliament will be holding hearings on this Accord and unless they are to be viewed as a complete farce, the Premiers and the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) must be prepared to consider any change to the Accord on which a consensus develops in the country. Aboriginal rights and self-government are issues to be considered.

The Premiers met on four occasions to discuss aboriginal self-government, with no results. The final meeting broke early in the afternoon with the Premiers tearfully saying they tried their best, but with no results. However, a few weeks later they met to discuss the Province of Quebec. Obviously, Quebec is an entity in this country with much more political clout, and the Premiers stayed to negotiate seriously and demonstrate a commitment to meet all night in order to produce results. I ask them to show the same kind of commitment to aboriginal people in this country that they have just shown to the people in Ouebec.

That is how the Accord can be improved, by building upon the consensus that the Prime Minister and the Premiers have been developing through this Accord. I call upon the Prime Minister and the Premiers to be open to suggestions made by Canadians who appear before the parliamentary committee. Canadians will have a greater opportunity in the weeks to come to examine the Accord in more detail. They may discover weaknesses in the Accord that are not yet apparent and which the Prime Minister and Premiers must be ready to correct.

The Accord can be improved by identifying and correcting the weaknesses. One immediate improvement to the Accord would be to make a serious commitment to address the question of aboriginal self-government.

Parliamentary hearings can be creative. We have heard a criticism that the lists of Senate and Supreme Court appointees that the provinces will present to the federal Government will tie its hands or make the appointments of Supreme Court justices secret. Perhaps parliamentary hearings could be conducted before the Prime Minister approves the appointment of a Supreme Court justice.

Changes in the rules of the House have allowed Order in Council appointments to be examined by a parliamentary committee. Rather than conducting such a hearing after the appointment, perhaps it could take place before the Prime Minister approves the appointment of a Supreme Court judge on the recommendation of the province. Such hearings could ensure the input of Canadians.

Perhaps such input to this Accord would encourage Canadians to make positive suggestions rather than simply to try to scuttle the Accord.

The Accord provides an open door for Quebec to enter the constitutional family. It leaves with the federal Government

the capacity to establish new national programs such as child care. It is important to improve this Accord, and I believe a good beginning would be to take the strong initiative in the area of aboriginal self-government. We must remain open to the suggestions of Canadians so that the hearings do not become a farce.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order. It being 5.45 p.m., it is my duty to interrupt these proceedings and put every question necessary to dispose of the proceedings now before the House under the provisions of Standing Order 82(9). The question is on the motion of Mr. Broadbent.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those in favour of the motion please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those opposed please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): In my opinion, the nays have it.

And more than five Members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Call in the Members.

The House divided on the motion (Mr. Broadbent), which was negatived on the following division:

• (1750)

Grondin

(Division No. 134)

YEAS

Members

Allmand Guilbault Althouse (Saint-Jacques) Axworthy Heap Benjamin Henderson Hopkins Blackburn Isabelle (Brant) Jewett Johnston Boudria (Saint-Henri-Broadbent Caccia Keeper Cassidy Kilgour Copps Killens de Jong Langdon Finestone Lapierre Foster Marchi Frith McCurdy Gagliano McDonald Gauthier (Broadview Gray Greenwood) (Windsor West)

Murphy

Nicholson (Trinity) Nunziata Nystrom Orlikow Parry Prud'homme Robichaud Robinson Rodriguez Rompkey Rossi Tobin Toupin Turner (Vancouver Quadra) Young -53