

not going to indulge in the same propaganda as the Government on the other side. I am not going to say that all people of confidence, imagination, and determination are opposed to this deal. I am just saying that all the people of that kind that I know are opposed to this deal, and I want to put it in some kind of perspective.

Let us look at the country in which we live. As a Canadian and as a person who came of age, reached maturity or adulthood in the fifties, I would like to reflect upon our country. Let us look at what has happened in this Canada of ours since 1945. There has been a profound change in almost every respect. As a country we no longer defer to Great Britain. In the 1911 great debate on free trade the slogans used were: "Keep Canada British". Well, it was not even British then. There was a certain major province on the other side of this province which was ignored in that sloganeering, but we understand, with an historical perspective, why that slogan might have been the case in 1911. We are no longer, as I say, a nation which is deferential toward Britain, to say the least. However, for many years I think that was the case. Canadians had a sense, if they were to make it in whatever field they were in, whether it was in sports, creative arts, or business, that they had to do it in the United States. There was a transformation from Britain to the United States in the psychic imagination of Canadians, consistent with our development.

If there is anything that is true of our generation today, that is behind us. If there is anything that is true of Canadians in their adult years now, it is the recognition of this great country of ours. I do not care what the field is, whether it is business or the arts. I happen to like fiction, but I can read a Margaret Atwood, a Margaret Laurence, an Alice Munroe, or a Mordechai Richler in the knowledge that they are not simply good Canadian writers but that they are among the very best in the English language in the world.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Broadbent: If one listens to music, one could name a Glenn Gould or an Angela Hewitt, again the best in the world. If one goes into a cinema, what are the two top internationally recognized movies? One came out of the Province of Quebec in this past year, *Le déclin de l'empire américain*, and another came out of Toronto. They are internationally recognized. If one looks at our athletes, at virtually every aspect of Canadian life, one finds that for a nation of 25 million people we do not have to boast that we are the best in the world, but I am telling you, Mr. Speaker, that we are right up there. We are second to none in our confidence and in our creative capacity.

It is precisely this generation of Canadians who are saying to the Conservatives that only a Conservative Prime Minister at this time would say that to be a confident, creative, self-assertive Canadian one has to be American. How ridiculous can they get?

Business of the House

We say that the Government does not have the mandate for this deal. Whether we consider energy, services, automotive parts, Crown corporations, the broad future of this wonderful nation of ours, our tradition of a mixed economy, or our particular blending of liberty and equality which is different from that of the United States, we do not need, we do not want, and we must not have this package of proposals which the Conservatives want to foist on the people of Canada. Instead of ignoring the democratic rights of our people to understand the details and implications of this deal by forcing it through and signing it on January 2, the Government should live up to its democratic obligations, recognize that it did not discuss it in 1984, has no mandate for it today, and ought to have a general election on it early in 1988.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Further to the Order made earlier this day, perhaps we could now revert to motions and recognize the Hon. Minister of State.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, as you have just suggested, the next order of business prior to Private Members' Hour is to call the motion that is presently on the Order Paper in respect of the adjournment of the House.

There have been discussions among the Parties, and I would just inquire at this time whether or not there is any disposition among my colleagues to amend the motion presently on the Order Paper immediately prior to Your Honour calling the same.

Mr. Benjamin: Amended to what?

Mr. Lewis: Then, Mr. Speaker, if there is no disposition to amend the same, I would ask—

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I fear that I did not catch the purpose of the intervention that the Minister was making; I was being disturbed by colleagues. I wonder whether he could repeat the proposition so that we all understand what he wants and what he is talking about.

Mr. Lewis: There were discussions with respect to the date of the return of the House, and I just asked the House if there was disposition to seek an amendment to the motion prior to it being put.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier).

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I am quite open to any proposal which the Government might wish to make to amend its own motion. I wonder what