

*Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement*

was held up for three weeks on specious procedural grounds. Debate in the House was delayed by recorded votes on the first reading of NDP Private Members' Bills on such matters as naming hockey Canada's national sport or marking the anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta.

By the way, hockey is quite a pertinent issue because I heard the other day that the Leader of the New Democratic Party wants to make the national sport, not hockey but rowing. He wants Canadians sitting on their backsides going backwards. It is pretty cheap to bring in a Private Members' Bill to make hockey our national sport in order to cover that up.

Those are the kinds of procedural steps the NDP took in order to prevent us from getting to this debate. They have not tried to debate any substance, only unfounded fears. All the time Members of the NDP were proclaiming that they were prevented from serious debate on the free trade agreement, these were their tactics.

When they and the Liberals were asked how much time they wanted for report stage and third reading, they said 350 days, more time than is left in the life of this Parliament. Imagine the two opposition Parties asking for 350 days of debate on report stage and third reading. Then they could not scruff up enough speakers for the days that we did have.

The NDP tampered with and misused the rules of Parliament, although they did stay within them. Unlike the Liberals, the NDP did not resort to corruption of the conventions of our Constitution, corruption of the conventions of Parliament.

The Leader of the Opposition returned to political life in 1984 and offered himself as a man of principle, a man coming out of the wilderness to cleanse Canada. He was going to bring much needed change to the nation by his leadership. He did not agree with the direction in which Mr. Trudeau had led the Party. He had been in Winston's on Bay Street since 1975 meeting with the people who he now excoriates. He was going to sweep away the old gang from the Trudeau years. He was going to bring a fresh new approach to the Liberal Party of Canada.

Where is he today? He is back in the hands of the politicians and back-room boys placed in the Senate at the behest of the Prime Minister he succeeded, the very people appointed to the Senate by then Prime Minister Trudeau or by the Leader of the Opposition in the few days that he was Prime Minister. He has put this whole issue and himself right back in their hands. He has fallen into the same tactics of trading in fear which were used by the Liberals in the 1974 election when they said "Zap, you're frozen" on the campaign trail. When they got into office they instituted wage and price controls. Mr. Turner is following in the exact tradition of the politicians who did that.

Who are those back-room boys who are now in the Senate and how long are they going to be there? Senator Gigantes will be there until 1999. Senator Jerry Grafstein will be there until 2010. Senator Marsden will be there till 2017, Senator

Graham till 2004, Senator Hébert till 1998, and it will be 2018 when Senator Kirby from Mr. Trudeau's office has to retire. Senator Kenny will be there until 2018. Senator MacEachen will be there until 1996, Senator Pitfield until 2012, Senator Frith until 1998, and Senator Fairbairn will be there until 2014. Senator Stollery will be there until 2010, Senator Romeo Leblanc will be there until 2002, and Senator Davey until 2001. It seems as though he has been there an eternity now. Senator Jack Austin will be there until 2007, Senator Cools will be there until 2018, Senator Corbin will be there until the year 2009, and Senator de Bané will be there until 2013.

The situation is that the Liberal Party has told Canadians that it will govern Canada if elected with a majority to the House of Commons. They said that they have governed Canada for most of this long, interminable century because they have been given a majority in the House of Commons. They say that they are going to govern when they have a majority in the House of Commons and that they are going to govern when Canadians give someone else a majority in the House of Commons because they are Liberals, only they can govern the country, only they have the brains, the magnetism, the intelligence, and the arrogance to govern this Canada. They are going to govern it from the Senate where they have a majority of Liberal Senators until the year 2008. If everyone in the Senate today lives to be 75 and stays in their position in the Senate, the Liberals will have a majority in the Senate until the year 2008.

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The Leader of the Opposition has told us, and it has been confirmed by Senator MacEachen and the Liberals in the Senate, that they will determine the policy of Canadians as long as they have a majority in the Senate. They say: "We do not care who elects a majority in the House of Commons, we do not care what their policy choices are". If it is the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, and they do not like it, they will change it. They do not care if it is the immigration laws. If they do not like the suggestions of the people for whom the electorate was dumb enough to vote in the majority in 1984, they will change them. They say: "If we do not like anything you propose we, the Liberals in the Senate, will change it".

Now the free trade agreement is coming before the Senate. Although the Liberal majority in the Senate believes in free trade and believes in the free trade agreement, they will say no to free trade. They will tell us that we must have an election. We are not to be governed by the ordinary rules that govern Liberal Prime Ministers. We will be governed by the Liberal Senate.

They say: "We, the Liberal Party of Canada, are going to decide". That is what the Leader of the Opposition is telling Canadians. The slogan is not "let the people decide", it is "let the Liberal Party of Canada decide". Let the Liberal Party of Canada violate all the conventions of the Constitution.