

*Government Orders*

unnecessary and I am saying to myself "Why did my mouth open up?"

I think again it is that pack mentality, that emotion, that kind of thing that goes on.

I see the member across the way shaking her head at most of what I say. I am very sorry. I am very concerned about this and I feel very personal about it. If she does not agree with anything I am saying I hope she will stand up and say that. But, again, that is the kind of thing that happens. Here I am standing speaking in the House, speaking I think with some sort of feeling and interest, and I do not know if that sort of thing would happen if one on one we were talking to one another. This place seems to do that. I mean you do not talk to somebody and they sit or stand there all the time shaking their head no at you one on one. That does not happen. But why does it have to happen here?

I have concern that maybe there are a number of changes that we should go through. As we know we have looked at television in the House, and what that has caused, watching the House at work. A major report that was put out in December 1989 said that television has undoubtedly had a dramatic effect on the proceedings in the House. The general decorum of members, their dress, as well as their behaviour have all been affected and in the opinion of most observers has improved by the introduction of television. It has also been argued, though, that television has contributed to some less than positive developments. The most common complaint is that television has led to the over-emphasis on Question Period. Individual members tend to play to the cameras and they grandstand in hopes of getting a 15-second clip on the evening news. This was talked to a bit earlier.

• (1400)

It says there are problems but it is the responsibility of the members of Parliament to correct this. This report goes on and recommends that it would pan this situation here, to my right, where we have members standing back and talking. It would take a broader view and it would show Canadians what all is going on in the House of Commons. The actions and the funny expressions and those things that tend to agitate would be on national TV and then the constituents at home would say "I saw you doing something that was offensive" or "I saw this group

all standing at the back behind the curtains having a meeting and making a lot of noise, and I saw you there". I think that sort of thing then would come home. We are all then partly responsible for this situation, where it is not just TV focused on the Speaker.

Another thing seems to come forward from my constituents and others. We have had testimony in the House management committee of people saying it is not what is seen, it is just what is heard, I mean this rumbling and this noise that goes on that they cannot see. That concerns people.

They want to see and they do not like what they see, but they keep going back to see it. Also they are concerned about what they cannot see and hear that is going on here.

The House management committee of course is looking at TV, not only for committees. Maybe the TV coverage kind of *Hansard* type of reporting that goes on in here should be changed, and that may help. A little bit earlier the member for Broadview—Greenwood talked about these long preambles that tend to get into innuendo and tend to agitate. I guess what he was saying is that in a way we are having a little trouble disciplining ourselves. We get over-zealous. Maybe the Chair and the kind of rules that we have here will then help us all do that sort of thing. That is maybe a way that we have to go at this thing.

These are the areas that I think need to be examined. I think all of us should get together to do it. If we do not, we are going to tear this place apart and we are going to have this ever more negative attitude put upon all of us. Certainly we have got to do some very fundamental things and we all have got to get to work in doing it together so that it does happen. Maybe if we get the partisanship out of it, and I think we are all trying hard to do that, we can then decide whether the rules should be changed. If rules are there should we then have the Chair be more disciplined in enforcing those rules? Maybe we need some help. It was certainly indicated to me by a member opposite that sometimes we all need some help. In the heat of the moment, the pack mentality that develops. It probably means that we need some help from the Chair. I would hope that we will all work together at that sort of thing developing and I think that certainly we can do that.