

so. Yesterday, the hon. member for Hull (Mr. Isabelle)—I am sorry he is not here—spoke the following words:

Someone also accused us of saying that certain political parties were in a bad shape. But from what we heard today, I believe that if they are not in bad shape, at least they show symptoms of a severe and imminent disease. We were also told that the founder of Social Credit was an engineer and an economist. I could say: Watch out, he has not built the Eiffel tower—

Nor did the hon. member for Hull build it. I continue the quotation.

—but rather a house of cards which could last a long time provided no one blows on it since it could crumble in a flash.

This is what the hon. member for Hull said to the House. I have met him about 15 minutes before entering the House and he said that he was absolutely dissatisfied with the performance of the Secretary of State. He said: It is time to change him. I myself am asking for his resignation, and the hon. member for Hull comes to the House and says: *Créditistes* are not the ones who have designed the Eiffel tower. How intelligent! There is a doctor reasoning thus. *Créditistes* are not ill, but the doctor is, you can rest assured of that.

Mr. Speaker, I am not in the habit of repeating what I am told behind the curtains, but in such a case it is about time someone spoke.

Mr. Prosper Boulanger (Mercier): That is not very nice!

Mr. Caouette: Even the hon. member for Mercier says it is not nice. If I were to repeat everything he told me for the past three years, I feel that he would have his money's worth this afternoon. But I will not say a word. I am even willing to go with him to the corner store to buy the hot pants he promised to the ladies of Trois-Rivières during the by-election campaign, because I am not convinced that he would have enough good taste to choose the right colour.

Mr. Boulanger: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order!

Mr. Boulanger: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Is the hon. member for Mercier rising a question of privilege?

Mr. Boulanger: This should be a question of privilege, but I will raise a point of order. First, the platitude flung by the Social Credit whip (Mr. Rondeau) is so ridiculous and childish that if the hon. member for *Témiscamingue* repeats it as a truth he is really dishonest. That is what I wanted to say.

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Mercier has no reason to raise a point of order. He may have been elected some time ago, but he cannot understand the Standing Orders because he is never in the House. He gets elected and, after that, we do not see him anymore. Therefore, he does not know the Standing Orders, he does not know what is a point of order, and he does not know what is a question of privilege. In fact, he does not know

Opportunities for Youth Program

anything about any of that. He agrees with me, because he is nodding assent.

Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to attack the hon. member for Mercier, but, as he promised in Trois-Rivières, I am ready to go with him to the first available store—because I am afraid that he might make a mistake in the colors—to buy the hot pants that he promised during the by-election.

Mr. Gérard Laniel (Deputy Speaker): Order. I regret that I must interrupt the hon. member, but his time has now expired.

Mr. Boulanger: It is enough!

[*English*]

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State (Mr. Pelletier), unavoidably as members know, his very able parliamentary secretary will, later in this debate, deal with some of the points raised by hon. members. However, I should like to speak about the matter referred to in the resolution of the hon. member for Egmont (Mr. MacDonald). I must say I am rather disappointed with his remarks. He has in the past, and did today, speak highly of the very imaginative concept of the Opportunities for Youth program, but his message today seemed to be that of the usual opposition day spokesman—too little, too late, not done well enough. That is a familiar refrain. I am disappointed that today as usual we waited in vain for his ideas and those of his party.

● (4:20 p.m.)

As far as the hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose) is concerned, it was difficult to understand why, on one hand, we were being accused of too much haste, and on the other hand, of too much delay. Surely, he cannot have it both ways. But I appreciated his willingness to wait for an assessment of this program, which of course was never promised to be a safe, secure program without danger of error or surprise.

The hon. member for *Témiscamingue* (Mr. Caouette) ran out of material after reading his list, and seemed then to have to get into the defence of Social Credit and of hot pants. We have not heard very much of value from the opposition, I am afraid and one wonders why they chose to spend today on this subject without giving us more than they have, particularly when the Secretary of State earlier undertook to make a statement on this subject at the end of this week. I believe he will be doing so as promised.

The government was aware and concerned about the unemployment situation which would be facing many Canadian students this summer. It was estimated that some 989,000 students returning to secondary and post secondary institutions next fall would be seeking summer employment, an increase of 54,000 over 1970, and that some 20 per cent of them might very well be unsuccessful in their attempts to obtain employment. It was anticipated also that a large number of the remain-