

Interim Supply

that I do not agree with such socialist measures. In fact I do not agree with socialism at all because I am not a socialist. What really concerns me is that this policy has not emanated from the minister. It arose in a branch of a federal government. This type of creeping socialism coming from the bottom does not give the people of Canada any choice to voice their opinion. I think this is going too far. I thank hon. members for their attention and I also thank the minister for listening to my words.

Mr. Clancy: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate having the chance to speak in this debate and I congratulate the Minister of National Defence for giving the armed services a really good shake-up. They have needed it for years. However, I do not agree with the way it was done. After all, I grew up in an area where we had all majors and no privates. There were admirals, air commodores and majors, but no privates. It was rather rough going for someone who suddenly became a private. Basically this is what is wrong with the minister. Mr. Chairman, I ask for your advice on what is accepted language in the house. Can I say that I think he is an arrogant bastard? I am asking you for advice, Mr. Chairman. Well, I withdraw it, but frankly I think he is wrong and I will explain in what way he is wrong. We all have to live in this country and the minister cannot sit there and tell us all to get lost, because it will not work. We belong to this country. I am taking part in this debate simply because I woke up this morning very tired and I opened the *Globe and Mail* and found that it said that the opposition is holding up the civil servants' pay cheques. This is nonsense. However, there is a point I wish to make, namely, that the House of Commons has control of the purse strings and men have lost their heads over this principle.

Let us face the facts. We are not holding up the pay cheques. We are exercising our right as members of the House of Commons to control the purse strings of the nation. If the members of the fourth estate knew what I think of them, they could never print it. When the Korean war broke out we had nothing. It took us ten months to get into action. In the second world war we could not act because we had nothing, and now we are right back where we started. Let us be honest and say to the Yanks, "You are our umbrella". Why should we waste money, waste lives, and worry? After all, we know

[Mr. Gundlock.]

they are going to move in on us anyway but, so help me God, I do not want it.

[Translation]

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to extend the debate, but I would like to read to the house a telegram received by me this morning, like all party leaders, from Mr. Claude Edwards, president of the Public Service Alliance of Canada. I insist on reading the telegram to make it abundantly clear that we do not want, under any circumstances, to hold up civil servants' pay cheques. They will not be able to cash them today, because the banks are closed, but at least they may do so Monday morning.

Now, Mr. Edwards sent me a telegram—this time using my right Christian name "Réal"—

• (8:00 p.m.)

[English]

The first merger convention of the public servants of Canada demands that the delegates of the people of Canada in the House of Commons show the same unity as we are showing and the same desire to reach just objectives as the delegates here have. We are now the united voice of the employees of the government and we demand that you expedite the supply bill so that the public servants, who cannot afford the luxury of manipulative politics, may be paid today.

[Translation]

That means today, Mr. Chairman, but today is not enough, and then there is a "stop".

[English]

We bring to your attention the fact these public servants cannot afford to underwrite your continuing delays and demand that you take immediate action to find ways and means to pay these salaries. We do not presume to direct how but to direct only that you get on with your responsibilities to the public servants.

Claude Edwards
President

Public Service Alliance of Canada

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, if the civil servants were not paid today, November 10, 1966, it is entirely due to the Progressive Conservative party of the House of Commons in Ottawa. Do you clearly understand what I am saying now?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Caouette: Because they filibustered to prevent the interim supply now before the house from being passed. Mr. Chairman, I will say more. The Conservatives are trying