

Government Orders

day see a similar confirmation of full citizenship and participation in all walks of Canadian life.

Beyond our borders there are other signs that provide hope of progress toward the achievement of the ideal supported with such unanimous idealism 41 years ago. Television screens have provided dramatic images of the changes in East Germany, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria which mirror the near-revolutionary impact of *glasnost* and *perestroika* in the Soviet Union itself.

Yes, we are encouraged by elections in Brazil, Uruguay, India and Namibia and by mildly encouraging signs in southern Africa. Surely, the tenuous basis of our optimism was severely tested by the bloody massacre in Tiananmen Square.

As we look elsewhere can we say that religious conflict and intolerance, torture by governments and the disappearance of dissidents, genocidal nationalistic conflicts, denials of basic human rights and justice, exploitation of the poor and suppression of democracy have in any fundamental way diminished?

Are we gaining a greater recognition as we in the developed nations continue to foul the earth and greedily consume most of its resources and impose escalating debt on the Third World, that we ourselves are negating all hope that three-quarters of the world's population will indeed ever be able to live lives in environments that can sustain them or where humans rights and freedom have any real value or relevance?

For Canadians, do we see a strengthening or diminishing by our government of Canada's traditions in defence of freedom and the pursuit of peace? In NATO are we the leaders for disarmament or are we the mere echoes for our U.S. allies? In Central America are we voices for a different way? Have we lost our resolve in southern Africa?

Here at home where the events of yesterday dramatize the inhumanity of human kind, have we made real progress in terms of the kind of understanding between the sexes that we had hoped to achieve and which was symbolized by my leader's victory?

Is it possible to argue that Canada acts in a way consistent with the dream enunciated in the universal

declaration when we have 1.1 million children living in poverty, when more and more Canadians go to food banks in order to eat, when so many are without homes in which to live, and when there is increasing disparity between rich and poor? One asks whether one can say that we are making progress even in our own country for producing those conditions which are necessary to achieve the ideals of the universal declaration.

In that context, it would be useful for our government to recognize whether, in fact, it is now acting in terms of those higher ideals, or whether this new pursuit of the ends of greed really are or ever can be consistent with the universal declaration. Can we have a nation in which there are people who hunger for jobs and hunger for food and at the same time expect there to be inter-racial understanding? Can we have a nation in which the imperatives are those of wealth and still have the hope that our aboriginal peoples will have control over their own lives? Is it possible to engender conflict among people worried about their future and truly seek to have understanding among those of different cultures and who live in different regions of the country?

Here at home we have enough to be concerned about, but unless we are able to transfer our ideals in terms of understanding and accepting the differences within our own borders and having as our highest imperative that to ensure all people have equal opportunity, economically and elsewhere within our own borders, one has to ask whether there is any hope for us to provide leadership in ensuring that those ideals that we talk about today will in fact be the basis for our future on this earth.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

GOVERNMENT SERVICES RESUMPTION ACT

MOTION THAT DEBATE BE NOT FURTHER ADJOURNED

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I move:

That debate on the motion for second reading and reference to a legislative committee of Bill C-49 and on any amendments proposed thereto shall not be further adjourned.