

*Summer Recess*

**Mr. Paproski:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister one question. He said he would answer. What exactly has he done for women in 1981?

**Mr. Rossi:** Something you couldn't do.

**Mr. Axworthy:** Mr. Speaker, I would be very pleased to answer that question, but it would take me at least another 20 minutes even to begin to provide the answer. If the hon. member and the House are prepared to give me the time, I would be quite prepared to have another full round and respond to that question.

**Mr. Paproski:** Just tell me one thing you have done.

**Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister would tell us about the arrangements he made for Mr. Calamusa.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** Order. Setting aside the possibility that hon. members may wish the minister to take a second round, his time has expired, and I think I should recognize the hon. member for Etobicoke Centre (Mr. Wilson).

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** Mr. Speaker, we have listened to a great big silence for the last 20 minutes on what the minister responsible for the status of women has done for the women of this country. The greatest thing the minister could do for women would be to go to Spadina, work for Laura Sabia and bring her up to this House.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Wilson:** The minister is responsible for minorities in this country. One of those minorities is the Liberals in western Canada. I want to remind the minister that there are 21 Liberals representing eight provinces and two territories. I think hon. members opposite should recognize the tremendous responsibility the minister responsible for Liberals in western Canada and the status of women has, and that he should treat them with a little more respect than he does. Hon. members opposite should build them up in their party. It is important to the rest of the country.

A minute ago the minister said that it is a sad day for politics in this country. Today this House is witnessing a government in great distress. It is a sad day for politics in this country because never before has a government in the British Commonwealth invoked closure on a motion to adjourn, but that is what we have today. Why is it that the government has seen fit to padlock Parliament?

**Mr. Chénier:** It is the quality of the opposition.

**Mr. Wilson:** I will tell you the reasons, Groucho Marx. The reasons are the high cost of food, the high cost of energy, high interest rates, the postal strike, and the uranium cartel which has been the subject of such debate. The government cannot stand the heat. That is why we see such a row of green. We have seen empty chairs over the last two days because minis-

ters cannot come in and face the music. I see a whole row of green. Hon. members opposite cannot face the music; that is why we have closure today—that and the energy failures in this country. The only reason the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Ouellet) has given us for invoking closure today is that members of Parliament need a vacation. Hon. members on this side of the House do not want a vacation. We want to sit here and watch hon. ministers opposite stew in their juices and feel the heat resulting from their failures of the last 16 months. That is what we want to do for the next few weeks.

Last night we saw one of the greatest examples of trickery as hon. members opposite sneaked into the House and tried to force an issue. You, Mr. Speaker, were an unwitting, unindicted co-conspirator in that trickery.

● (2050)

My party has brought the important issues of this session of Parliament before the government. Hopefully hon. members opposite will take these issues home with them, think about them over the next three months, and come back with some new approaches to solving the problems of the country. The last 16 months have been a total failure, and there must be a change.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Wilson:** There is a lot of noise from hon. members opposite who cannot stand to hear the truth. Hopefully they will come back with some new ideas to reverse their sorry record.

I should like to talk about some of the things which constitute that sorry record. For example, I refer to the uranium cartel. I listened carefully to what the hon. member for Lincoln (Mr. Mackasey) had to say about our comments. He missed the point entirely. He said that we were casting aspersions and using innuendoes to cast a cloud over some of the people involved in the matter. That is not the point. We are being stonewalled regularly day after day.

Hon. members opposite will not accept the political responsibility of coming forward and telling us what happened during the years from 1972 to 1975. This is what we are attempting to obtain. Two senior public servants have been named as unindicted co-conspirators, but it is essential to know who authorized this. Was it a deputy minister, a minister, or the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau)? We are asking for those documents to be made available, so that we and the people of Canada can make that judgment. We are not finding out that information. Day after day we are getting the fifth amendment from the Minister of Justice (Mr. Chrétien) and the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

The deputy minister is on the record as stating that he clearly knew the impact upon domestic prices. Back in 1974 there was a Gulf Canada memorandum which indicated that the officials of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources recognized that Canadian utilities had to be prepared to pay export prices. What did the government do about