

*Procedure and Organization*

**Mr. Winch:** Did you hear of the pipeline debate in 1956?

**Mr. Perrault:** We are not talking about the pipeline debate of 1956, we are talking about the situation in 1969 in Canada, and the sooner we forget about the class struggle in parliament in 1969 the better it will be for this country.

**An hon. Member:** You tell them, loud-mouth.

**Mr. Perrault:** It is nonsense that somehow democracy has been damaged in Canada as a result of 75c and other measures. This suggestion is clearly ludicrous and is not supported by any fair examination of the facts.

The distinguished professor of political science at the London School of Economics told Canadians in a national television interview a few weeks ago—and I might say that he is not unsympathetic to the views of our friends to the left—that:

The government here never has any doubts about how long parliament will take over any given measure. And when we read occasionally in the U.K. of your pipeline debate, your flag debate, it just seems ludicrous... I mean it's unbelievable that a government trying to get through a piece of business that it thinks important should be in doubt about when the debate ends... You can't have debates that go on indefinitely.

Let me quote further from the same interview. Mr. Charles Lynch then went on to make the comment:

Well, there's also a point, I think. Canadian public opinion being more sluggish, I think, or more difficult to reach than British public opinion, because of geography if nothing else, needs a little time and it's been argued that it's not a bad thing for the public understanding of an issue to have a prolonged debate.

Mr. McKenzie of the London School of Economics then replied:

Arguably, yes. Although I hope you're not going to suggest to me that you believe in government by public opinion. This is not something that exists in Britain and doesn't really exist here. Governments are elected to do a job... and as long as there's a fair opportunity for the opposition of the day, one or several parties, to make the alternative case, we aren't really sitting around surely in the case of the pipeline debate or the flag debate waiting for the public to decide. It's governments that are elected to decide. The public chooses the decision maker. It doesn't make the decisions itself.

Those are the facts, Mr. Speaker, and these are the words of an expert on parliamentary procedure who has told us exactly the way things are done in Britain and other Commonwealth jurisdictions.

Professor McKenzie closes, as I do now, by saying:

There's nothing revolutionary about them—

He is referring to measures such as 16A. He goes on to say:

—that's all I'm saying. I'm not now saying that because I happen to live in London I think they do things inevitably better there, but this is an absolutely clearly established principle that governments control parliamentary time—

That is the way it should be.

I beg leave to move the adjournment of the debate and point out the fact that it is four o'clock.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. It being four o'clock, pursuant to special order made this day, the house stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 o'clock a.m.

At four o'clock the house adjourned pursuant to special order made earlier this day.