

*Census Debate Requested*

**Mr. Grégoire:** I should like to close, in an attempt to point out the gravity of the problem, by saying that no one has the right to use a government body for low political ends as the Liberals are now doing.

My second point concerns the importance of the debate. And I know what I have to prove in this regard, Mr. Speaker.

According to standing orders, the importance of the debate—

**An hon. Member:** It is not important.

**Mr. Grégoire:** The importance of the debate, yes, because such a debate can throw some light, enlighten the house, and allow redress of the scandal—

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

**Mr. Grégoire:**—of the unnameable scandal we are now witnessing. The debate is important as an attempt to root out the evil the Liberal party is now committing.

[*English*]

**Mr. Winkler:** Would the hon. member permit a question?

**Mr. Grégoire:** Certainly.

**Mr. Winkler:** I would ask the hon. member whether that is the reason he supports them every time we have a vote of non-confidence.

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

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, when in—

**Mr. Sauvé:** There is no connection.

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, in their hypocrisy, the Conservatives tried to prove that one was black and the other was white. I was not taken in, because they are all just as black one as the other.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Would the hon. member again restrict his remarks to the point I have just suggested?

**Mr. Grégoire:** Then, Mr. Speaker, what I must prove, under standing order 26, is the importance of the debate. The importance of the debate: it is written right here.

I say that the discussion is very important, because it could help remedy the situation.

**An hon. Member:** It is too late.

**Mr. Grégoire:** And I should like to make a—I am told it is too late. I shall come to that [Mr. Sauvé.]

later. But for the moment, I should like to quote a precedent to stress the importance of the matter. During the—

**Mr. Gérard Duquet (Quebec East):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. The matter now being raised by the member for Lapointe is no more in order than his statement to the effect that he would take an active part in the election campaign.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. There is no question of privilege.

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, I have here the list of commissioners in Quebec East, which indicates that patronage in the riding of Quebec East—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Caouette:** The hon. member for Quebec East (Mr. Duquet) has never done any patronage.

**Mr. Grégoire:** It has to do with patronage handlers, but I shall leave this subject and pursue my remarks, Mr. Speaker, on the importance of the debate. To support my argument concerning the importance of the debate, I should like to quote a precedent.

More than a year ago, when the question of urgency of debate was raised concerning drought in the province of Ontario—

**Mr. Caouette:** Including also the riding of Stormont.

**Mr. Grégoire:**—including also the riding of Stormont, as my colleague for Villeneuve just said, the question of urgency was accepted and, during the debate, discussions took place and decisions made. It was later established that the debate had given results, since steps had been taken to cure the disastrous effects of the drought in the province of Ontario.

That proves the importance of a debate such as this one to cope with the problem I pointed out.

Third, this debate is important now, Mr. Speaker, because to-day is May 11 and the census is beginning on June 1; if a decision is taken today, during the debate, to cancel the lists, give orders to have others made, the last 20 days will allow these things to be done: three days to notify the officials of the national employment offices to see to it that the commissioners are replaced; one day to prepare and send the required notices to recruit new commissioners; two days to enable those who are interested to send their applications—