

*Summer Recess*

effect on the unification of the community. There is a feeling of pride in this coming together in Thunder Bay. This will spill over on August 9 when we proudly open the games and welcome Canadians from across Canada into our community. Easterners will be meeting westerners, Francophones and Anglophones will be together in one place. They will be doing something constructive, striving together for excellence and getting to know each other a lot better.

Sometimes during question period in this chamber we do the country a great disservice. The job of the opposition is to oppose. In opposing, you strike a negative connotation in most instances. It is a job that has to be done. Sometime, somehow, all of us in this House must find opportunities to say, "This is good, this is proper". By creating a negative attitude, we do not serve the country; we do it a disservice. We must learn to recognize what is good and distinguish that from what needs to be corrected. We must maintain a balance.

Les Jeux Canada Games 1981 gives us something else to think about. It is something we can point to with pride. Athletes will be coming from British Columbia, the prairie provinces, Newfoundland, the maritimes and central Canada. They will be meeting together as Canadians, not as easterners or westerners. We often hear the expression, "We are proud to be Canadian." Sometimes we have difficulty in defining whether a Canadian is a Canadian or a Canadian from western Canada or a Canadian from eastern Canada or a Canadian from Newfoundland. However, at an event like Les Jeux Canada Games 1981, we come together as Canadians. I hope that that thought and feeling might have the chance to last a little longer.

● (1540)

As I mentioned earlier, there are many reasons why I look forward to the summer recess. It is not that I want to take a vacation, although I hope I have an opportunity to spend a little more time with my family, as all hon. members would like to do. I want to spend time with my grandchildren, but primarily I will have an opportunity to look at some of the matters which are pressing to northwestern Ontario but also have some impact, I respectfully submit, on the rest of the country. I look forward to having the chance to meet with people and to give them the time I cannot always give. None of us can do so the way we would like while this House is in session. It is only by being able to sit down with individual family men, businessmen and farmers that we can get away from the abstracts and get to the realities. Then we can come back and really try again collectively as a House to do the things which are necessary to continue this country's growth and prosperity.

Despite all the negative things which have been said, I think we can take a great deal of pride in Canada's progress over the last few years. I know hon. members opposite recognize the good things about our country. I hope when they have had an opportunity to reflect over the summer months, they will find that there are opportunities to say positive things. A good idea does not belong to any one party. If it is adopted, if it is good

and if it works, everyone should admit it. We have that duty to the people of Canada so that their spirit is raised once in a while. We have a tendency in this chamber to make them feel down sometimes. I do not think we do that intentionally; I suppose it is just the nature of the beast.

As we go into the summer recess, I might say that it is not really a vacation period for any of us in this chamber. It is an opportunity to do other things and to come back in the fall—unless we are called back, for whatever reason, before that, which is still very possible, as we all recognize—recharged and prepared to continue to serve this great country of ours in a more positive fashion.

If I may be allowed just one last commercial, I hope the 1981 Canada Games in Thunder Bay will do its part from August 9 to 22 to provide a unifying voice here in Canada.

**Mr. Lyle S. Kristiansen (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, in contributing to this debate I would like to touch briefly on a number of subjects, but first I would like to address myself to the events of the last few hours. All of us do silly things on occasion. The government party, for all its failings, usually can be expected to show a modicum of common sense, at least when it comes to questions of political tactics. In the last few days the party which forms the Official Opposition has been going through weird and wonderful motions to extricate itself from the awkward position its members irresponsibly talked it into. A little while ago they stood as fools for everyone to see. However, the government suddenly let them off the hook totally and made a fool of itself with what should initially have been a good proposition. That has to do with the importance and the good common sense there is in having this Parliament adjourn during this period of Post Office negotiations.

I listened yesterday with a great deal of interest to the comments of the Minister of Labour (Mr. Regan). He said—and I agree—that anyone with any experience at all in industrial relations would have to agree that if we expect either of the parties, particularly the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, to make any movement in their position in terms of Post Office negotiations, it has to be made clear—and the possibility of parliamentary adjournment provides for that—that there will be no intervention by Parliament to bring an end to the free collective bargaining process and the right to strike. To do otherwise, particularly with the addition of the irresponsible comments being made by representatives of the Conservative party, would simply delay, delay and delay the opportunity for a peaceful settlement.

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

**Mr. Kristiansen:** We all know it is important, and many of our constituents feel it is very urgent, that this dispute be settled soon, but it is even more important in the longer term public interest that when the new Post Office Crown corporation begins its work later this year as an independent agency, there should be, as much as is humanly possible, restored to that operation some good faith relationships between management and labour so that when they try to get their act together