

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT  
MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE  
DEBATED UNDER ADJOURNMENT  
MOTION

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** It is my duty, pursuant to provisional standing order 39A, to inform the house that the questions to be raised at ten o'clock this day are as follows: the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard), Privileges and Elections—inquiry as to presentation of first report of committee; the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), Public Service—superannuated federal employees—request for increased pensions; the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Herridge), External Affairs—mainland China—possibility of recognition.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

SUPPLY

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Sharp for committee of supply, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Fairweather.

**Mr. Lawrence E. Kindt (Macleod):** Mr. Speaker, in the eight years that I have been a member of this house and of parliament, I have never before risen to speak on a question which was more vital to the individual members of this house, to the dignity of parliament and to all that this stands for, than the present amendment to the resolution. It aims directly at the cause, and the cause is that the Prime Minister asked for the files on a number of individual members. What for? It is clear to anyone that the motive was political revenge. The protection of national security, past, present and future had nothing to do with it—or very little at any rate, giving the Prime Minister the benefit of the doubt. What he had in mind was to find something with which to strike back at the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen)—in other words to try to silence the opposition.

• (8:10 p.m.)

Well, I can assure the Prime Minister and other members of the government that before this debate is over they will rue the day the Prime Minister ever took this type of action.

*Morality in Government*

After he received these files from the R.C.M.P., I do not know what he did with them—let us assume that he examined them. But he had them for roughly 16 months and then the R.C.M.P. had to ask for them back. Well, if there was anything in them of a security nature, surely the Prime Minister would have asked the R.C.M.P. to take action. In my view, and I say this in all seriousness, if anything of a security nature should be found against a man who is elected a member of parliament, who enjoys the trust of the people he represents, surely the government or the R.C.M.P. or the people in power are justified in giving him the works. We have to preserve honesty, integrity and dignity in this parliament. No wrongdoing can be condoned. If such a case comes to light it is the duty of the R.C.M.P. to present to the government the file relating thereto. I submit it is not the duty of the Prime Minister to ask for the files of members of parliament, placing those members in jeopardy and holding such files like a bucket of slops over their heads which he might pour on them at any time. This is not the type of conduct that any government should condone, let alone the Prime Minister. I am certain that the purpose behind the action of the government was to create a witch hunt so as to try to find something to pin on somebody and expose them to public scrutiny; and this is the method they chose to do it.

As I said before, I do not know why the government was not able to find something on somebody. At one time I was covered for security and had access to secret files that others had not, through this was not in Canada. I found some things, and things were shown to me which were more or less of a hearsay nature, and doubtful. I imagine that all files contain matters of that nature. But to bring these people before the bar of justice or to cast suspicion upon them is absolutely wrong. When no wrongdoing is proved, then nothing should be done.

I would imagine this was the attitude the Prime Minister took after looking at these files; otherwise he would not have kept them for 16 months without doing something. Something is wrong somewhere. There is a nigger in the woodpile, and before this debate is over I hope we will put our finger directly on the problem. In my view the problem lies directly on the desire of the Prime Minister and his government to find something to pin on the opposition and secure a certain degree of revenge.