

I do not know whether that would refer to the men or ladies in the house, but that is the advice of this medical officer of health.

Increase consumption of basic fluids—beverages normally indulged in.

An hon. Member: Six o'clock.

Mr. Howe (Wellington-Huron): I continue: Eat well-balanced but moderate meals concentrating on cool-looking foods such as cereals, fruits, vegetables and salads.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. Howe (Wellington-Huron): Mr. Speaker, it was with great anticipation that I entered this house for the first time back in November of 1953, because here was a place where the destiny of our country was being shaped by men whose names were conjured with by people throughout the country. I might mention the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent), the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Drew), the Leader of the C.C.F. (Mr. Coldwell), the leader of the Social Credit party (Mr. Low) and many of the ministers. But particularly I was interested in seeing in action the man who bears the same name I bear, the man whose bill we are debating today.

There were those throughout the country who said that he was a dictator. There were those who said that this Liberal government should be called the Howe government. I have yet to find that out, Mr. Speaker. After all, the Howe name is quite illustrious down through history. There are many people who have carried that name with great distinction. To mention a few of them, there was the man who invented that homely piece of household equipment, the sewing machine; his name was Elias Howe. Then we have that great Canadian statesman from Nova Scotia, Joseph Howe, who fought so hard and with such great distinction for the common people; to such an extent was he successful that he was able to bring constitutional government to his province. He fought for the rights of the press and many other things that we hold supreme in this country of ours. Then among those who carried the name of Howe we have a great many men who were generals, who won distinction on the field of battle. We have the lady, Julia Ward Howe, who wrote "The Battle Hymn of the Republic".

Mr. Knowles: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I must have lost track of things here. Are we now on the address

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Defence Production Act

in reply to the speech from the throne for next session or to what is the hon. member speaking?

Mr. Green: Oh, sit down.

Mr. Howe (Wellington-Huron): I am speaking of the people of distinction, as I say, who have carried the name that I so proudly carry. Now we have the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe). As I have indicated, he also bears this illustrious name. After all the wealth of praise and the plaudits that have been heaped on his shoulders during this debate by members of his own party and others, in the phrase we have heard used in this house before, he would appear to be as a knight in shining armour. However, I sometimes wonder whether the knights in shining armour, when they took their oath to protect the weak and the rights of the people, would uphold the principle that is brought out in this bill, namely the principle that we give to this government and the minister such great powers for an unlimited length of time.

Perhaps it may be that that armour is getting a little tarnished and that there are a few chinks in the armour. Probably the Minister of Trade and Commerce finds that he has a little too much to do. I have been amazed at all the things he has to do and all the departments he has to look after. I sometimes wonder whether part of the reason for this bill is not that he hopes to delegate to someone else this portfolio of defence production.

As the hon. member for Hamilton West (Mrs. Fairclough) interjected yesterday, we do not know what is in the minister's mind. He may have in his mind some other member of the government. He may have in mind someone he can bring in from outside to be Minister of Defence Production. Who knows? Here in this house we have had an illustration of what might happen, in connection with the new C.N.R. hotel in Montreal, where they had to import somebody to operate it. So, Mr. Speaker, this great desire for power, this great desire to overthrow some of the things for which our ancestors of whom I spoke fought so hard, probably indicates that some of the brightness is wearing off. After all, is not that the real reason for this debate? Has not this debate been brought on because of the provision in this bill that would continue the act for an indefinite length of time?

This is a debate which has been carried on for many days. It is a debate in which many intelligent and capable people have taken part. It is a debate which has aroused the interest of the people of this country as no other debate has done for many years. Last

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