

Non-Confidence in Deputy Speaker

from before the ringing of the bells at eight o'clock until the adjournment of the house, I feel I should make some comments on the effects of that evening on one private member, namely, myself.

I took a great deal of satisfaction out of having been a participant in the discussion on Friday night, and I believe the house did the proper thing in authorizing the government to dispatch troops to Cyprus. But even if I could take satisfaction from having done the proper thing in the house, I must say that procedural difficulties did rest somewhat heavily on my mind and heart over the week end. We are now discussing this matter on a Wednesday afternoon when the tension of Friday night has entirely disappeared. The atmosphere today is vastly different from that of Friday night, when we were in the middle of an international situation that required immediate attention.

Mr. Ron Collister of the *Toronto Telegram* had an article in the *Telegram* last night in which he spoke of the proceedings last Friday as:

The drama of Friday the 13th, a fantastic day in history, adds up to this—

And then he goes on to give the points dealt with in Friday night's debate. The editor of the *Telegram* put as a heading on Mr. Collister's dispatch, "only two hours from war."

When you consider that we were debating a matter that was keeping the world only two hours from war you must realize that all present in this chamber were well aware of the import of their every word and action. I know it was the feeling of the great majority in the house that, "If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well it were done quickly." That was the attitude of the great majority.

Some speakers this afternoon have endeavoured to state that the error, if any, committed on Friday night, is the responsibility of the government. Might I point out that the *Globe and Mail*, in its report on Saturday last of the events of Friday evening, had this paragraph on page 10:

Attending the emergency sitting were 38 Liberals, 34 Conservatives, eight New Democrats, one Social Creditor and three Creditistes.

That adds up to 38 Liberals and 46 in the opposition. If the error of Friday night, if any were committed, is to be ascribed to anyone, certainly it could not be given to a minority of 38 against a combined opposition of 46.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Cowan: In speaking further on that question I would like to say that I thought the saddest words spoken in this house on Friday were those of the hon. member for [Mr. Cowan.]

Roberval (Mr. Gauthier) who, during the course of his objections to the procedure in the house said, "I know that my speech is of no avail..." These words are to be found at page 924 of *Hansard* for Friday last, and it made me very sorrowful to think that an hon. member of parliament could stand up and make the impassioned address that the hon. member for Roberval made, and then believe that his speech was of no avail. Surely he must have pride in the parliamentary institutions of Canada today when he realizes the full dress debate that has been given for several hours this Wednesday afternoon to the actions of the three members of the Creditistes on Friday night.

I sincerely hope he will agree with me that his speech was of great avail, and that he will take satisfaction in the workings of the parliamentary institutions of this great country, where each member of parliament knows he can bring forward the desires of his area, set them forth, and know they are going to be considered from all sides by men from one end of Canada to the other.

There are rules of the house. We have standing orders of the house and we have rule 42. Three members of the Creditistes, to their eternal credit, stood up in parliament and fought valiantly for rule 42, but my mother used to teach me that rules are made to be broken. When Nelson went into Copenhagen sound, under King's orders and regulations he knew he was expected to obey the instructions of the admiral of the fleet. Admiral Parker was the admiral of the fleet and he ran up the signal to withdraw. Nelson put the telescope to his blind eye, broke the King's orders and regulations, stayed in Copenhagen sound and won the battle. Are we going to ask now that Nelson's commission as an admiral of the fleet be withdrawn because he broke King's orders and regulations and stayed to win the battle?

If an error were made by the Deputy Speaker, surely to heaven we can put the rule book to our blind eye and congratulate the man on the basis that "well done is better than well said". I would like to ask the hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Gregoire) if he would give serious consideration to asking for the unanimous approval of the house to the withdrawal of his motion. Surely it has been given the fullest attention of this parliament on the points he has raised. He knows how heavily it rests on the hearts of us all, and I would sincerely ask that he give consideration to asking for unanimous consent for the withdrawal of his motion.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to speak on the question of the amendment before the house, and to suggest