

from the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Clark) that the adjournment motion would not be passed today; consequently, royal assent will be given this afternoon a little before or a little after 4 p.m., depending on circumstances.

As far as the adjournment motion is concerned I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, that we on this side keep our word and that we intended to move the adjournment as discussed a little earlier in the week.

I think I may take this opportunity to make a brief review of what we have accomplished during this session. All hon. members will remember that Parliament was first convened after the April, 1980 election and that we had to sit from mid-April until mid-July, that we adjourned for the summer and that we returned subsequently in the fall; we shall probably adjourn later today, in July or in August, depending on circumstances.

● (1250)

So, Mr. Speaker, I believe it falls to me as government House leader to point out the work carried out during these weeks and these months. First of all, let me congratulate all members on their regular attendance and on the earnestness and determination they have shown during these months in their efforts to act sincerely in the best interest of the nation and their constituents. I am convinced that regardless of political ideas, principles or philosophy, every member in this House is sincere. Irrespective of any political affiliation, I must recognize that in any debates held during this session, whatever opinions were expressed by members on both sides of this House, everything was done in earnest and with the intention of actually serving society rather than to destroy this nation called Canada. In these circumstances, Mr. Speaker, this is the first group I wish to pay tribute to even though it does not mean that we have completed the job if I am now extending congratulations, but I believe that after these months, since April, 1980, the members deserve congratulations and recognition for all the work they accomplished and for all the time spent doing their work and taking their responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, since the election and since April 1980, we often meet members who could prove beyond doubt they devote 80, 85 and even more hours every week to the interests of Canadian men and women. I believe this is a fact often forgotten in the heat of action, in the heat of debate, and I believe it is sometimes important that parliamentarians and I, as parliamentary leader in any case, should mention it. Whether on the government or the opposition side, whether we favour such and such a policy or have differences of opinion on the same subject, each and every one of us devotes in all good faith 80, 85 hours of our time every week to serve the interests of our constituents to the best of our ability and to make Canada progress. There is absolutely no question about that, it is worth mentioning occasionally and it is a further reason to congratulate again every parliamentarian.

### *Summer Recess*

We must also think of all those people whose lives are related to our proceedings. We must not forget all the Commons staff, all those whose duties are related to those of parliamentarians, who have to adjust their way of life to the tempo of parliamentarians, and I include the media and also the press gallery people. When we sit till 10:30 p.m. they have to stay on the look-out and keep their ears open up to the last minute to report as completely and faithfully as they can what happened on the floor of the House of Commons. Accordingly, in order to adapt themselves to our parliamentary tempo, these people must follow our proceedings and neglect their family life or other occupations. This applies to the media, to the reporters on the *Hansard* staff, to the translators, it applies to all those men and women whose job it is to keep the House of Commons working smoothly, and at this time of the year, on July 10, after a very long session which started last April, these people deserve our respect, our support and our apologies to some extent, if we have to sit after today.

As for the business which has been dealt with during this period, let me say that this session has been more productive on the average than all previous sessions in the history of Canada. Let me give you only one example. I see that the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition is smiling, and I know that it is not with malice, but he may not be aware of this fact. For over 20 years, it has never happened that the House of Commons has passed all bills related to the budget before the summer recess. This is the first time it has happened in over 20 years, and I am told that it may be the first time in 29 years. I would like to thank also in this regard his House leader, who has co-operated and contributed to this result, as well as the House leader of the New Democratic Party.

When I said earlier that parliamentarians had worked constructively and when I asked that party lines and partisanship be set aside, it was because it is indeed important for the public to know from time to time that their representatives in Parliament are doing something positive for society. The Leader of the Opposition will agree with me that the image of politicians is not at its best among the public. And what often contributes to tarnishing this image unfairly are irresponsible reactions to positive results when a statement which contains such positive aspects is made. I am not denying the right of the Leader of the Opposition to criticize and to blame us for not having tackled such and such an issue which his party considers a priority. I understand this, he is within his right and I respect that freedom. It is the very foundation of Parliament. However, when we do something positive, when we get results, when we are productive, I would also appreciate a positive reaction on his part in an effort not to deteriorate further the image of public men and women in Canadian society, because in fact, at times when parliamentarians do something positive I believe that it is the responsibility of parliamentarians themselves, and especially party leaders, not to minimize the importance of such positive results, however small they might be.