

Canadian Flag

Mr. McIlraith: And the hon. member for Grey-Bruce (Mr. Winkler).

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. The hon. member for The Battlefords.

Mr. Horner (The Battlefords): Mr. Speaker, the Liberal party is in favour of two flags and are against those who want to keep something of their past and who want to fly the union jack. The Liberal party wants to break away from the past—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. Would the hon. member kindly resume his seat. The Chair has to voice an objection in connection with the hon. member's speech, not because he is referring to notes but because he is straying some distance away from the subject which we should be discussing, namely the amendment. I would ask him to restrict his remarks to the particular point mentioned in it, the plebiscite.

Mr. Horner (The Battlefords): Mr. Speaker, I am leading up to it but I hope I do not have to mention plebiscite in every sentence or every other sentence.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: No, but it should be mentioned once.

Mr. Horner (The Battlefords): With all due respect, Mr. Speaker, I have not been speaking for many minutes and I think I have mentioned it three times already. The word "distinctive" in the Liberal dictionary sometimes means camouflage of our history, our traditions and the flag which has been honoured by our forefathers who founded this nation. National unity in Canada cannot be achieved by diplomatic methods in which Mr. Pearson is the accomplished professional.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order please. The hon. member must know he cannot refer to another hon. member by his name, particularly in the case of the Prime Minister or the Leader of the Opposition who should be alluded to by their titles or official positions in the house.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chrétien: On the same point of order, Mr. Speaker. Could you suggest to the hon. member to take off his glasses for a minute so that we may know to what extent he is reading his speech?

[*Text*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) on a point of order.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member for The Battlefords (Mr. Horner) would supply Your Honour with a copy of his notes so that you might be able to determine in advance whether any of his speech is in order or not.

Mr. Horner (The Battlefords): Mr. Speaker, I think the government of today is acting in exactly the same manner as an ostrich which puts its head in the sand; what it cannot see it simply ignores. We in this party are opposed to two flags. We believe there is one Canada, one nation, and that there should be only one flag. Some of the Liberal members opposite are very pleased with the idea that a few Conservative members did not go along with our party, but soon they will find out how their colleagues will vote on the second resolution.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. Even if the Chair wants to be indulgent and co-operative with the hon. member I do not think he can be allowed to discuss the second resolution at this stage of the proceedings.

Mr. Horner (The Battlefords): Mr. Speaker, I was very interested in the remarks of the hon. member for St. Hyacinthe-Bagot (Mr. Ricard) who conducted a poll to see what his constituents thought about a plebiscite. I think it probably explains the feelings of the people in Quebec far better than do the hon. members opposite who represent people in Quebec. That poll showed that of the letters he received in answer to it some 216 favoured the plebiscite and 155 were against it. I wish hon. members opposite would get up and tell us why they think there should not be a plebiscite.

Mr. Cardiff: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I object to the interruptions which are coming from the other side of the house. That man over there does not know how much he has to know in order to know how little he knows.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Horner (The Battlefords): I could not agree more with the hon. member for Huron (Mr. Cardiff) in his comments last night. He is one of the senior members of the house. He told us he has been here for 25 years and this was the worst parliament he had ever seen. I am sure there are many people in the house and throughout the country who agree with him.

When I was home a couple of weeks ago I had a talk with some of the people back