

The last reason is an important reason and I think this is the real big reason. They have to find a job for the big fellow. They know that they cannot go into an election with the captain of the *Titanic* on deck. They cannot go into an election in spite of all of the things that Hughie is doing. In spite of all of the opportunities to put him where he is mobbed by his family in public and it is all caught by the camera. It says: "Hundreds mob the Prime Minister". They found out that it was his second cousin, his first cousin, the whole gang.

In spite of all of that, they know in their heart of hearts that they cannot be lead into the election by the captain of the *Titanic*. They know that. There is no question in my mind.

So what they have to do is get a new leader. They are going to go back into the catacombs and resurrect somebody to lead them. Now the talk is that they will have Peter the Red from Alberta to lead them, the man who took PWA into public ownership.

An hon. member: Or John Diefenbaker.

Mr. Rodriguez: Or maybe John Diefenbaker. But some medium has to be found that can bring a new leader to the Conservative Party. That takes time. The convention call has to go out and it seems to me all of that takes time.

Then the other important thing is what do you do with the guy who has the job and does not want to go? You have to set him up with a job.

Mr. Speaker, may I remind you and members of the House that the first attempt at this failed. Georgie Bush could not deliver the job. That was the job at the United Nations as Secretary-General. That would have been very neat. The Prime Minister of Canada gets the new job, there is a vacancy, they hold an election and they have a new face.

That scenario is not new. Now it has more coinage because of the situation in Great Britain. Now you see, they had to get rid of Margaret Thatcher, put a new face there and lo and behold, success would come their way. But first they have to get the boss a job. Now, I do not know of any openings. Are there any openings?

I am appealing to Canada. I am looking out there and asking: Is there a corporate boardroom that has an opening? Iron Ore is no longer there. That is gone. It cannot go back. Is there some opening? Is there some-

Supply

body out there who can save Canada and give the Prime Minister a job?

Mr. Nault: Ed Broadbent.

• (1700)

Mr. Rodriguez: I think this is what they are looking for. In fact they have head-hunters fanning out across the country, trying to find the appropriate niche for the Prime Minister. Floyd Laughren has an opening for the head croupier for his casinos, so I think we should put Buggy Mulroney in charge of the casinos. He is great at rolling dice and he can add up to seven. That is snake eyes. Double seven and you are in.

This government is not going to call an election now because it has to resolve the question of leadership. I say seriously, and I say it to the Conservatives, that I think it is not too late for the people in the back-benches to get together and go to the Prime Minister and say: "You had better jump because we are going to push you. I think you cannot go on without a renewed mandate. The issues facing the country are too important for you to shilly-shally and dilly-dally, hoping for a better day and more peaking back down to 14 per cent".

I say to them to screw up their courage and go forward with the job that they have to do. They did it before with John Diefenbaker. They can do it again.

Mr. Al Johnson (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I found the speech and comments of the hon. member for Nickel Belt very entertaining, to say the least. It would have been more helpful if there was more content. I did find particularly humorous his encouragement that we should change our leadership. I am sure that is something his party would very much want us to do since it obviously fears ever having to face the Right Hon. Prime Minister again and to be outdone as they were twice before.

I would also like to say that I was intrigued by his comments about the rats that left our ship, the ones that went across the floor. One ended up in the Liberal Party that supports the GST, with some tinkering of course. We all understand what that means, but they are going to keep it. The other one, we hear recently, is now shopping around. He is not sure whether he is going to go to the Liberal Party which supports the GST or the Reform Party which supports the GST. He has even suggested he might come back to us, although I think that would be highly improbable.