

Privileges and Elections

On an earlier occasion when we were discussing electoral reform, I mentioned the situation which occurred in one of my early election campaigns. A lady who certainly disagreed with my points of view did everything she could to defeat me. She went to the polls in an ambulance and was carried in on a stretcher. The poor soul did vote and that was actually the last act she performed on earth. She died on the way out of the polling booth. I have never forgotten that. I do not see why the process of voting cannot be made more civilized for those who have a disability.

Finally, with regard to lowering the voting age to 18, I cheerfully, willingly and gladly support it. I suspect if anyone could be disfranchised, it is those in older age brackets. After all, our children in Nova Scotia are now going to school with history books containing the actual words of the astronauts during the first moon landing earlier this year. History books are pretty well up to date. They are bright youngsters, very bright youngsters. I have seen a model Parliament in the Queen Elizabeth High School, which is a few blocks away from my house in Halifax. I have attended these sessions at least once every

year. I have been thoroughly impressed with the calibre of debate. These teenagers want to consider the problems which concern them, such as drugs and the like. They put forward sensible resolutions and make their decision in the best way possible.

With these thoughts, I endorse the resolution before us.

Mr. Macquarrie: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker. With reference to the flattering offer by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) I wish to assure the house in the immortal words of Calvin Coolidge, "I do not choose to run".

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the pleasure of the house to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being six o'clock, this house stands adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

At six o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.
