

Extension of Sittings

NAYS

Members

Althouse	Funk	Marleau
Anawak	Gaffney	McCurdy
Angus	Gardiner	McLaughlin
Axworthy	Gauthier	Miffin
(Winnipeg South Centre)	Gray	Milliken
Baker	(Windsor West)	Mills
Barrett	Guarnieri	Mitchell
Bellemare	Harb	Murphy
Benjamin	Harvard	Nault
Black	Harvey	Nystrom
Blackburn	(Edmonton East)	Pagtakhan
(Brant)	Heap	Phinney
Blondin	Hunter	Pickard
Boudria	Jordan	Prud'homme
Brewin	Kaplan	Rideout
Butland	Karpoff	Riis
Caccia	Keys	Robichaud
Callbeck	Kilger	Skelly
Campbell	(Stormont—Dundas)	(Comox—Alberni)
(South West Nova)	Kristiansen	Speller
Catterall	Langan	Stewart
Clancy	Laporte	Stupich
Comuzzi	LeBlanc	Tobin
Copps	(Cape Breton High- lands— Canso)	Turner
Crawford	Lee	(Vancouver Quadra)
de Jong	MacDonald	Vanclief
Duhamel	(Dartmouth)	Volpe
Ferguson	MacWilliam	Wappel
Fisher	Maheu	Wood—82
Flis	Manley	
Foster	Marchi	
Fulton		

● (1050)

Mr. Speaker: I declare the motion carried.
Resuming debate. The Hon. Member for Kamloops.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

MOTION TO EXTEND HOURS OF SITTING

The House resumed from Thursday, December 15, consideration of the motion of Mr. Lewis:

That, notwithstanding any Standing Order or practice of the House, from the day of adoption of this motion the House will meet on the days and at the times specified in Standing Order 24, but not on December 26, 1988.

That, during such period, the Speaker shall adjourn the House on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at midnight and on Fridays at 3.00 o'clock p.m., and that the provisions of Standing Order 38 in relation to the adjournment proceedings shall be suspended.

That, during such period, the Standing Order respecting the daily mid-day interruption of business on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays shall not be suspended;

That, at 6.00 o'clock p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, or at the conclusion of Private Members' Business, the House shall proceed to "Government Orders" pursuant to Standing Order 40(1);

That, for the duration of this session or until otherwise ordered, the provisions of Standing Order 73(1) and (2) respecting committee stage of Public Bills be suspended, and all such Bills be ordered for referral to committee of the Whole; and

That immediately upon the House returning from the Senate after the first Royal Assent of this session, a Minister of the Crown may propose, without notice or debate, a motion to rescind this Order.

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): This is a very sad day for the Parliament of Canada.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Kamloops (Mr. Riis) at the adjournment had the floor, and he has been given the floor again. I would ask Hon. Members to give him the courtesy of listening to his comments.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, we have seen the parliamentary demolition crew on the Conservative benches at work in the last little while. Step by step Members on that side of the House have dismantled the parliamentary tradition that we have come to know in this country.

Let us just think back on the historical scenario. This was the Conservative group that held Parliament to ransom for 17 days not so long ago with the bell-ringing incident when they decided that it was in their political interest to close down Parliament, to stop debate in the one place where Canadians can hear both sides of an argument. But they decided that they wanted to close down the Parliament of Canada, which they did for day after day after day. We remember those dark days of that bell-ringing incident. That was the beginning.

Then, during parliamentary debate, we also remember that they did not like what was going on in the Commons so they stormed the chair. I remember that dark day when there was a group of Conservatives in front of the chair shaking their fists and screaming, saying that this was not the way that they wanted Parliament to proceed so they wanted to stop it.

Then, last summer, we saw the Conservatives do something that we have not seen in this House for over 100 years. They decided because of their political agenda—not because of any emergency, not because of any serious issue facing the country, but because of their agenda—that they wanted to take the rule book, the Standing Orders of the House of Commons, and tear it up. They threw it out the window. They said: "We have used this for 100 years. We developed this through all-Party discussion, and so on. We hold this as the way to