

*Summer Recess*

unacceptable that a party leader who claims to be a Canadian—

**An hon. Member:** A federalist.

**Mr. Gimaiel:**—signed a petition like that one, just as it is inadmissible that the leader of a Canadian party cannot accept that July 1 be called Canada Day, just as it is inadmissible that the leader of a Canadian party cannot accept Petro-Canada. It is unbelievable that the leader of a Canadian party put the axe to Loto Canada.

**An hon. Member:** It is true!

**Mr. Gimaiel:** The Leader of the Opposition can laugh, he can laugh, but I want to point out to him that he is beginning to saddle his colleagues with his own defeatist and negative approach. There is one member in the House for whom I have always felt much admiration and respect, and that is the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker). Something happened yesterday which greatly disappointed me. I heard that same member say earlier today that we would have to sit between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. because some members still had not had a chance to speak. It was enough to discourage me because at 8.20 p.m. last night that same House leader was not in his seat in the House of Commons.

**An hon. Member:** Quite true!

**Mr. Gimaiel:** He was not here, Mr. Speaker, he was not here!

● (0040)

[*English*]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Lac-Saint-Jean (Mr. Gimaiel) has the floor.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Kilgour:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona on a point of order.

**Mr. Kilgour:** Mr. Speaker, we cannot hear him well, could he speak a little louder?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member for Lac-Saint-Jean has the floor.

**Mr. Kilgour:** Louder, Pierre!

**Mr. Gimaiel:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention to the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona that last night, he spoke very loudly.

**An hon. Member:** He was alone, by the way.

**Mr. Gimaiel:** I was saying that I am sorry that the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition said to us in this House tonight that he would like to sit between 6 and 8 p.m., instead of letting everybody out for dinner, as yesterday this same leader did not return until 8.20 and consequently the debate had to be postponed for 45 minutes. I think one should not go too far in pretending that everybody is cheated as far as the right to speak is concerned in this House. Let us not exaggerate. I feel I ought to emphasize that during the work of the committee, those poor Liberal members have to put up for long hours with the silly rethoric of the opposition parties, and after that they claim they are not given the opportunity to speak in this honourable House. Therefore, I think it is about time we become serious. Now if the government has decided that it is time for members to go home to their ridings, it is because their constituents have needs and this is a fact the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition should be aware of, as well as members of the New Democratic Party. The best advice I can now give Progressive Conservative members is to return to their constituencies and ask people what they think of the present leadership of their party. What do they think of what they are doing in the House at this time? Do they think they are doing anything constructive to develop their country? They will soon realize that apart from destroying a few ideas, from boycotting in a very childish and disorderly way, this way of abusing the openness of the parliamentary system of the English-speaking world, only stems from a lack of leadership which is rubbing off on the members who are supposed to work for the people.

As a representative of one particular region, I cannot accept that. I want to say something. The day I have reached that point I want my colleagues and my constituents to say to me: Pierre, stay home, we do not need you to go and cry in Ottawa. I came here with the purpose of building not destroying and, especially not to waste the time of those who want to work.

One thing I hope, Mr. Speaker, is that the light of understanding shine on everyone. This applies also to the New Democratic Party. Listen, gentlemen of the No Decision Party, there is a limit to going from left to right, from one side to another, to changing one's mind from one day to the other. That can do for a while, but then it becomes hijacking because we do not know what the party line is, if one indeed remains. At one point, one did not know whether the NDP was more concerned about—I was going to say El Salvador, not Labrador, that is too close to us, they are not concerned about those kinds of things—about El Salvador than the economy of our country. Other times, other issues, they change their minds almost every day.

Beside, it is of the utmost importance that this party should establish a party line because it means a lot to all the Canadian people; this is what makes a healthy democracy and it has never been anything else but that. And how can you explain that this government, the government of the Liberal Party of Canada has been in power for such a long time in this