

Mr. ISNOR: I really do not understand the observation made by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre about my being a Tory. I think for myself, and that is more than can be said for members of some other groups. The hon. member who has just taken his seat referred to the promises that we would make, the promises we would not be able to make, and so on. I have contested five elections and have won them all. I have yet to make a promise that I did not carry out. More than that, I do not think it is necessary in the city and county of Halifax to make promises in order to win this election. It is on the record of the government that we shall return a representative from Halifax city and county who will help to carry on the work I am endeavouring to do.

The hon. member referred to strikes in Nova Scotia just in a casual way, but I would remind him that there are strikes elsewhere. At the present time strikes are occurring in Vancouver.

Mr. MERRITT: There is no by-election there.

Mr. ISNOR: That does not matter; it is not because of by-elections that strikes have taken place. May I tell hon. members how we are going to win this election? May I remind the house of the size of this constituency. It is not like many of the constituencies in Ontario or elsewhere which you can almost hold in the palm of your hand.

Mr. GRAYDON: You are doing that with Halifax.

Mr. ISNOR: The record speaks for itself. The constituency of Halifax runs for 147 miles east and west. There is considerable rural mileage to cover in the winter time and many fishing villages have to be visited. These things may not be important to hon. members who sit in easy urban comfortable seats.

Mr. ABBOTT: Like Vancouver-Burrard.

Mr. ISNOR: I do not want to refer to any particular constituency. I have been complimented time and time again upon holding off this election and not having it held in the winter. I told the leader of the C.C.F. a short time ago that he should thank me for not having forced this election in the winter time. He did not say a word; he just looked at me and I said, "You know, your transportation is not quite as good as that of the Liberals or Conservatives and we would have you at a disadvantage". I want to be just as fair as I can about this matter. My hon. friends have

never been particularly strong on organization. While they have done a fairly good job in trying to get organized at the present time they can thank me for having held off this by-election, if I were the one responsible. Our own organization is ready to go and we certainly will go.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): When?

Mr. ISNOR: The people of Halifax will certainly send a good type of representative here when the time comes. I would remind the house that the government is still within its rights because the time limit of six months has not elapsed. The leader of the opposition said that if an election were called tomorrow it would be 206 days, but that is just three days more than the previous by-election he mentioned when there was a period of 203 days. What difference does it make whether it is three or six months?

I still think I am doing a good job for the people of Halifax. I want a colleague who will work with me instead of one who will be bucking us at every turn. If we are going to row tandem I want a man who will keep stroke with me instead of one who will be pulling against me and upsetting the boat.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): That is what they wanted in Portage la Prairie.

Mr. ISNOR: We are going to have that in Halifax the same as we got it in Cartier. There is no reason why an election should be held in the winter. I trust the people of Halifax city and county, and I know they will send back a Liberal to help me in the good work which I am endeavouring to do.

Mr. PARK MANROSS (London): Mr. Speaker, I feel that I should rise in my place for a minute because London and the Thames river and floods have been mentioned this afternoon by people who are not from London. They read the *Toronto Telegram* and the *Toronto Star*, but they fail to read the *London Free Press* where they would really get the right story. I imagine they buy their papers on the outside when they are a day old and they can get them cheaper. There are two or three matters I should like to bring up at this particular time.

Great alarm was expressed by the trades and labour congress in London over the closing of CMD-1. The Minister of National Defence (Mr. Claxton) and the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply (Mr. Howe) were there recently, and after their visit they said that