

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

like to know just why the leader of the house is taking his present attitude, whether it is deliberate or not.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. A proposal has been made by the minister. Without going into the details of the intervention by the hon. member for Fraser Valley, is it agreed that the house shall sit at the times suggested by him, and is it so ordered?

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Mongrain:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order or on a question of privilege, if you prefer it that way. I am aware that the three independent members here do not express their opinions on all questions and it seems to me that, as representatives of the people, we should have the same rights at least as every member here and that, as a matter of courtesy, the hon. minister could have come over here to ask us whether or not we objected to that. We do not require so much after all and, even if some of my Liberal friends do not understand that we are protecting their interests at this time, I wish nevertheless to reiterate that we do not accept, whatever may be our differences of opinion, to get a poorer treatment than the other members who, for their part, resigned themselves to the guidance of a leader. We are not even asking, Mr. Speaker, that there be a leader here but, while coming this way one could have asked us: Have you any objection to that, yes or no?

That is all we are asking, to get the same treatment as the other members and I believe, Mr. Speaker, that is our privilege.

[*English*]

**Mr. Patterson:** It is not our intention to thwart the will of the house at this time, but I wish to say that in future we may have to examine carefully any decisions we may take if consideration has not been given to discussing such matters as this with the house leaders either individually or at a meeting.

**Mr. MacEachen:** On the point of order or question of privilege raised by the hon. member for Fraser Valley, the proposition was, of course, put up to each member of the house and each member of the house is free to accept or reject it. House leaders and others were treated alike. But I do reserve my position with regard to the final point raised by the hon. gentleman.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. J.-A. Mongrain:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give the hon. minister the assurance that he has a very agreeable personality with which we can co-operate. All we ask is that he sees us somewhat more often and listens to us. We have nothing against him, we are agreeable to the decision he submits to the house. We are ready to accept it but as the leader of the *Créditistes* has said, there is a principle involved in the questions that will arise in the future.

[*English*]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The proposal has been made by the Minister of National Health and Welfare that the house forgo private members' hour from five to six and sit thereafter from eight o'clock—

**Some hon. Members:** No, no.

**Mr. Speaker:** —that the house adjourn at six o'clock. My understanding now is that the house is to adjourn at six o'clock having suspended the private members' hour from five to six. This requires the unanimous consent of the house. Is it agreed and so ordered?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

## RESEARCH

### TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE TO HARP PROJECT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Heward Graftey (Brome-Missisquoi):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Industry. In view of the current discussions which are taking place, is the government reconsidering its decision to withdraw support from the HARP project?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry):** No, Mr. Speaker. There have been very long and intensive examinations into the HARP project. The decision to terminate Canadian government assistance was made some 19 months ago. The HARP project was advised that Canadian government assistance would be terminating in a period of one year from the time of the decision. This year has now run out and circumstances do not appear to have altered so as to justify a change in that decision.

**Mr. Graftey:** A supplementary question. What provision, if any, is the government