Government Orders

In conclusion, I say that this country, Canada, divided as it might be, is never divided because of Quebec. We in Quebec want the rest of Canada to develop as Canadians want, as long as they let Quebec develop as the people of Quebec want and agree to that.

[English]

Madam Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. members: Question.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon. members: No.

Madam Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some hon. members: Yea.

Madam Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. members: Nay.

Madam Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the yeas have it.

And more than five members having risen:

[Translation]

Madam Deputy Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 45(6), the recorded division stands deferred until 6 p.m. on Monday, February 1, 1993.

Mr. Plamondon: Madam Speaker, on a point of order. We are prepared to give our consent. If there is unanimous consent, we are prepared to vote immediately, since all three parties are in favour.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): If the hon, member wants to reconsider his objection, we are willing to have the question put again, and we are in favour of having a vote immediately.

[English]

Madam Deputy Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon, members: No.

[Translation]

Mr. Rocheleau: Madam Speaker, we wanted a vote in the House, but we are willing to have the vote held

immediately. If a vote is held, we in the Bloc Quebecois will vote in favour.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Unfortunately, when he requested a vote at this time, the hon. member overlooked the fact that unless there is unanimous consent, the House never proceeds with a vote on Fridays. The division is always deferred, unless there is unanimous consent.

[English]

Mr. Dingwall: Madam Speaker, when the Chair read the motion that the question be now put, to my colleagues who are in favour of the motion, it simply means that we will have an opportunity to vote on the question which is before us.

I am happy to see that my colleague who has spoken on behalf of the Bloc Quebecois is in agreement with that.

If the Chair were to ask if the motion could go forward, I think it would find a disposition in the House for that unless there were five members who would then stand up and oppose that particular motion. If those members would understand, we could proceed with the vote which I think all members would like to have forthwith.

Mr. Nowlan: Madam Speaker, the situation we are in is that the Chair has already called the vote. Five members have stood to put the vote, and the Chair stated that according to the rules of Friday it would be deferred.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Madam Speaker, it always requires some interpretation of the rules of the House.

My understanding, based upon what I have seen here, is that five members rose, two of whom may not have clearly understood all of the consequences of their rising at that time. As I understood the interventions that were made by the Bloc Quebecois members of the House, it was an indication to the Chair that they would like to have reconsidered the vote that they had cast which had caused this matter not to proceed.

If there are only three members opposed, then the matter can proceed. If there are five, it cannot. My understanding is that the Bloc members wanted to proceed and therefore the only opposition would come from the Independents and the Reform members. I would ask the Chair to put that question again since there has been a clear indication that there had been