

Extension of Sittings

Mr. McDermid: That is the point.

Mr. Prud'homme: At least the Minister should listen to arguments. I do not say that he will not get his law. But I would like him to convince Canadians without a shadow of a doubt that it is a good law.

Mr. McDermid: We did.

Mr. Prud'homme: I want him to convince the 57 per cent of Canadians that they may—

Mr. McDermid: Do you believe in the parliamentary system?

Mr. Prud'homme: Yes.

I am not going to make a point of order concerning the language that is being used. If someone is saying that I speak with forked tongue, I remind Hon. Members that in 1984, I did not campaign in Quebec saying that never, ever shall we deindex pensions. I wonder which Party or which person has a forked tongue in this House.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Prud'homme: Hon. Members opposite have talked about the Liberal Party being the biggest bunch of hypocrites ever. Someone said:

[*Translation*]

The biggest bunch of hypocrites.

[*English*]

For me a hypocrite is one who may be gentle to you, Madam Speaker, and then go behind the curtain and be less kind. It is someone who may give his word that he will do something and then do otherwise when he has a chance. This is why I am so upset. I will not receive lessons on hypocrisy from people who promise to do something and once they are elected do something else. That I will not accept.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McDermid: Tell us about price and wage control.

Mr. Prud'homme: The Minister is the one who claims to be virtuous—I am not. It is Members opposite who say that they are better than us. If they are better than us, then they should stick to their guns and do exactly what they said they are going to do.

I want to try to convince the Government that it has started with a kind of motion that is worse than the C. D. Howe motion. Hon. Members may disagree. Later I

would like to send that motion to the Minister responsible for housing who prefers to see people out rather than in. I read the motion today and yesterday and thought that that is why it is good to have some older Members who have good memories. It reminds me of the debate on the pipeline, except that it has come the day after the election.

It is extremely arrogant for people to say: "Listen, we have been elected. You said, let the people decide. They have decided. Now we can do anything we want". It is that disrespect with which we disagree. They are not allowed to do anything they want. They were not given a free lunch to do anything they want now that they are elected. They were elected to be responsible, I put to the House and I put to Canadians. I put to Canadians that to be fair about an important piece of legislation, the Government should give ample time to new Members of Parliament who have just been elected, who have gathered information and who would like to be sure that what the Government is about to do will be the best for Canadians. But how do we know the Government is going to do its best when it takes us to a debate of guillotine instead of saying, what the hell, one week or two or three weeks? The Government will get it passed and it knows it will get it passed.

• (2120)

I will tell Members opposite what I did at the national caucus, and we are not supposed to talk about that. I said, surely it would be well advised for the Senate not to participate longer than the lower Chamber. We were elected and, yes, the Government was elected, but these new Members were also elected and they have a message to bring to this House because of what they feel about it. I say to the great Minister of Agriculture—no, he is not the Minister of Agriculture. He is still dependent on the Minister of Agriculture, the actual one, the one from Quebec.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I have tried to signal the Hon. Member to help him finish his speech. His time has expired. I would need the unanimous consent of all Members.

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.