

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, July 9, 1975

The House met at 2 p.m.

[English]

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

TRIBUTES TO NEW LEADER OF NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY, MR. EDWARD BROADBENT

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to raise a special question of privilege today in order to congratulate the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) for having been chosen the Leader of the New Democratic Party.

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

**Mr. Trudeau:** As he himself has noted, a number of very distinguished Canadians have preceded him in leading the New Democratic Party and its predecessor, the CCF. We on this side wish him well, but not too well, in his functions.

[Translation]

I would also like to extend my wishes to Mr. David Lewis, our former colleague, who during so many years worked for his party and Canada in the House of Commons.

[English]

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to associate myself with the remarks of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau).

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

**Mr. Stanfield:** After what I said yesterday, perhaps I should make it very clear that I am not a leadership candidate. In associating myself with the remarks of the Prime Minister, I should like to offer a little reassurance to the Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Broadbent). I wish to congratulate him. I wish to suggest that he should not be too concerned about his family life. After the assurances he has received from his colleagues, I am sure he will be able to have a weekend at home at least, say, twice a year.

There was some question as to whether he was far enough left, and I would just like to suggest to him that he could put all those rumours to rest by arranging to have a few children born on May Day.

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

**Mr. Stanfield:** I should like also to suggest to him that he not be too concerned about any criticism he may receive because leaders of the New Democratic Party come and go, but Stanley Knowles goes on forever.

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

**Mr. Stanfield:** I wish the hon. member good health, and I hope he receives the same loyal support from his caucus and his party as I have always enjoyed.

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

[Translation]

**Mr. René Matte (Champlain):** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues, I join the other members of this House to congratulate heartily the new leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Broadbent). When we are aware of the heavy responsibility entrusted with a leader, we can only wish him the best of luck within his party and his valuable contribution to the proceedings of this House will surely be rightly appreciated. However, in spite of all the qualities of the new leader and all our best wishes, will you allow me, Mr. Speaker, to make a slight reservation and not wish him too much success at the next election.

● (1410)

[English]

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) and the spokesman for the Social Credit Party for their warm and generous comments.

I have some degree of qualified concern for the expressed concern coming from the Leader of the Opposition that I should enjoy the same fullhearted co-operation and support from my colleagues that he has received from his; I detected a slight note of ambiguity in this. I wish him well in turn in his future years. Before very long I am sure he will be spending somewhat more than two weekends a year with his family.

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

**Mr. Broadbent:** I should like also to thank the Prime Minister for his kind and deserved comments about the former leader of this party and former member of this House for York South, David Lewis.

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

**Mr. Broadbent:** Before I sit down, Mr. Speaker, I should like it to be noted that my own spirit of beneficence and generosity toward my formal opponents this afternoon has now to come to a conclusion!

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

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Oral Questions.