

Government Orders

Let us hear the NDP philosophy on that. Let us not only talk about environment. Let us talk about this country.

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure what the question is that the hon. member has put. What I will say is that the history of this party, of the leaders and the members of this party, is a long and honourable one in attempting to keep this country as one united country.

I must say, Mr. Speaker, from the tone of the member's remarks that somehow or other this party is in some way encouraging the break-up of this country. That is quite far from the truth. Anyone who wants to read what this party has had to say both in this House and across this nation about steps we should be taking to try to encourage the province of Quebec to feel it has a real, long-term, unifying part to play in this marvellous nation of ours has not listened to what members on this side and in this party have had to say.

I have not heard anything particularly productive or useful said by the recent leaders of the Liberal Party in relation to the problems that Quebec faces, problems that we have seen while the majority of that party have found their support from the province of Quebec. The present government also finds the majority of its seats to stay in power in the province of Quebec. To try and blame the problems of this country and problems that Quebec is having with the nation as a whole on the NDP is a wee bit hypocritical.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Resuming debate. The hon. parliamentary secretary on a point of order.

Mr. MacDougall: Mr. Speaker, I would ask consent of the House to allow us to continue with some questions to our hon. friend. I am sure that those of us who come from regions of the country that rely heavily on the resource sector would love to be able to find out really what is the policy of the NDP member concerning whether he wants a resource to be there, or whether he does not.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is there unanimous consent for continuing questions and comments?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

[*English*]

An hon. member: No.

An hon. member: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. MacDougall: Mr. Speaker, when we listened to the hon. member—

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I may have misunderstood what you meant, but I understand that we were running a rotation and that the New Democrats were splitting up their section, so my hon. colleague would be next, Sir.

Mr. Butland: On debate.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): There is no consent. Resuming debate. The hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie has 10 minutes for his speech.

Mr. Steve Butland (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, before I start my speech I would like to congratulate my hon. colleague. I am sure he is going to make an excellent minister of the environment after the next election.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Butland: Having said that, I want to get to the resolution:

That this House express its loss of confidence in the Prime Minister and call upon him to resign and immediately call an election.

It does not take an election. If we had a vote in this country right now, overwhelmingly, 85 per cent at least, would say, "Resign, get out." We don't need an election to get that result. What is the greatest accomplishment of this government? Seventy-one per cent could not cite anything, according to a poll in the paper today. They could not cite any kind of accomplishment, let alone a great accomplishment.

Mr. Speaker, we are talking about leadership. I went to a book and tried to find a quotation that fits this Prime Minister. It was impossible, but I would like to cite a few. "A leader is a dealer in hope". Napoleon Bonaparte said that. Certainly this leader does not deal in hope. He has dealt in despair.

An hon. member: Yeah, ruined the country.

Mr. Butland: Mao Tse Lung says, "For the best leaders, the people do not notice their existence". Well, this summer we did not notice this leader, but much of the rest of the time we do recognize him.