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unashamedly, is with my colleague John Turner. Even though he is in the wrong party, he still is a good friend.

John Turner gave his word when we made deals or had conversations or arrangements, as are necessary in the various roles we have in politics. When he gave his word, that was it, and that was the hallmark of his service to this country. He was always loyal to his party, always loyal to his word, loyal to his country, but more important, always loyal to his family.

I am sorry to see him go. He has a few more months left. He represents a British Columbia seat, so he should come with us where he will have some company.

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I am not going to trespass too much on the time of the House.

As the Deputy Prime Minister knows, on an earlier occasion, on May 3, we have been through this all before.

I do want to acknowledge the very generous, gracious words of the Prime Minister of Canada. I was particularly taken by his citation from Teddy Roosevelt. I do not attribute anything Freudian to that reference. I might say to the Prime Minister, the member for Yukon, and in his new responsibilities, the member for Windsor West, one of the remarks of Teddy Roosevelt which is useful to any party leader: "Speak with a soft voice, but carry a big stick".

• (1440)

May I say also to the member for Yukon and the member for Esquimalt how much I appreciated their generous words. The only reason the member for Esquimalt could not be more fulsome in his commentary about me is that he knows I have as much on him as he ever had on me.

I want to apologize to the member for Yukon, as does the new Leader of the Opposition, for our entry into the House at a time when her colleague, the member for New Westminster—Burnaby was speaking. We would certainly agree to her being able to redo her statement, because of the importance of the subject which she was addressing.

I thank the chairman of our caucus. It is the only time that I have ever seen him use a text. I will leave it to the House to decide whether that is an improvement or not.

I am proud to yield my place to the member for Windsor West. I don't know whether the story of my political life has succeeded, but to find oneself on the left of the member for Windsor West is a startling culmination of a career.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): The member for Winnipeg South Centre suggested that I still was not to his left, and I say enough is enough.

I commend to you and to the House my colleague and old friend, the member for Windsor West. We were elected at the same time, but he has served consecutively now for 29 years in this House of Commons. He is the dean of this place. He has enjoyed the confidence of the people of Windsor for almost 30 years. It is no accident that he has been elected time after time after time, as has the vice dean of the House, the member for Saint-Denis. It is because they are constituency members. They never forget that we are here because people put us here and we have a duty to respond on a daily basis.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to mention the announcement by the new Leader of the Opposition that my colleague and old friend, the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier), has been appointed the new House Leader for the Official Opposition. He is competent, he is a House of Commons man, and he represents his constituency with great skill and energy, and I am very happy with this appointment. Congratulations, Jean-Robert.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

[*English*]

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, it has been an honour to serve under your leadership of the House. You and I have been proud to have shared that unguarded frontier of 45th Avenue in Vancouver and our friendship goes back many years. I wish you well in your presidency of this Chamber. I can assure you that you enjoy the full confidence of our side of the House and that the new Leader of the Opposition shares my ultimate respect and confidence in you and in the Chair.

Since you and I have both shared a love of the outdoors, a love of the environment, and a love of the coastal waters of our province, I can only commend to