

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

**Mr. McIlraith:** For the reasons I have given earlier this evening, I regret that I am not able to say with precision at the moment. I hope we can return to the debate on capital punishment. If we cannot I think hon. members should be ready for any item of government business on the order paper.

**Mr. Fulton:** Mr. Speaker, may I remind the government house leader of the suggestion I made earlier, and ask him to keep it in mind as a possible way out of an impasse which would serve us all well. If the mood of the house permits, at some time unanimous consent should be sought for a motion to refer the subject matter of this motion to a special committee of the house.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. There is now before the house a motion to adjourn.

### PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the house under provisional standing order 39A deemed to have been moved.

● (10:10 p.m.)

#### FINANCE—REPORTED DISCRIMINATION BY BANKS IN GRANTING LOANS TO WOMEN

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, as one who has always been a firm supporter of the principle of human rights, and as one who is intellectually opposed to discrimination on the basis of sex, I have always been interested in equal rights for all people. Some years ago I was approached by a lady who informed me she had been refused a loan by one of the banks, strictly because she was a woman. At that time I thought this was a passing phase in our evolution toward a complete democracy and that the situation would soon be changed. However, two or three years ago several ladies informed me that they had been refused loans by various banks, although they had some limited security, on the grounds that they were women and were therefore not considered capable of carrying on a business profitably, thereby assuring repayment of the loans in question.

I asked them to give me their names and the facts surrounding the refusal of these loans, but with the usual modesty displayed by the fair sex on such occasions, they did not wish any publicity in the matter. However quite recently my attention was drawn

[Mr. Grégoire.]

to an article in the South Edmonton *Sun* of Saturday, March 19, this year, entitled "Sex Discrimination in Canadian Banking". I wish to quote from this article:

By secret agreement the eight chartered banks of Canada have banned the transfer of loan accounts from one bank to another. They are also accused of discrimination against their employees because if a member of the staff of one bank quits his job none of the other seven banks will hire him.

All this by secret agreement. Now we have evidence that the banks also (apparently by secret agreement) refuse to loan money to Canadian women—simply because of their sex.

I hope the parliamentary secretary is listening carefully.

In response to our current series on Canada's banking system, Miss Audrey Tyndall of Provost, Alta., agreed to be interviewed by one of our reporters. And here is the interview:

Reporter: Miss Tyndall, how did you become involved in farming?

Miss Tyndall: For 14 years I was an unpaid worker on my father's farm. During this time I bought a quarter-section, adjacent to my father's land, for \$200 annually. I worked as a school bus driver and used the money I earned to buy several calves. I raised the calves and eventually paid for the quarter-section. By working at Wainwright during the summer I earned enough money to buy additional calves.

Reporter: Were you in the cattle business long?

Miss Tyndall: No. Because 1955 was a hard year for raising cattle, I decided to raise horses because they are easier to care for during the winter. Having decided to raise horses, I obtained grazing leases from the Lands and Forests Branch for 11 quarter-sections. I bought and paid for another half-section; all this land has been fenced. Now I have 39 horses and I wish to buy my father's farm. It has the proper buildings and good soil for raising feed. The farm is worth \$12,000 and I require \$1,000 for operating expenses.

Reporter: What financial arrangements have you made to buy the farm?

Miss Tyndall: None. I tried several times to negotiate a loan, but everywhere I went I was refused a loan because I am a woman.

I see hon. gentlemen laughing over there, but they did always see me standing up for the women. This article continues:

The people at the Industrial Development Bank suggested that I turn my money or land over to one Cecil Fleming—who does not own his land—for security, and that he would get the loan on my behalf. An application made with the Farm Purchase Board passes at the municipal level, but was rejected by Ken Taylor of the Department of Agriculture. They just say, "It's too bad you are not a man!" The Farm Credit Bureau adopted the same attitude. Various banks and our treasury branches have also refused to lend me money.

Reporter: Why must you buy the farm now?

Miss Tyndall: Because my father is anxious to sell and there are many other prospective buyers for a good farm.

Reporter: Thank you, Miss Tyndall.