

Oral Questions

Mr. Clark: He is afraid of the views and the opinions of the people of Canada. He prefers to have Canadian questions settled in Britain. We want these Canadian questions settled here in Canada.

Why will the Prime Minister of Canada not call an election on this fundamental question so the people of Canada can speak clearly and settle our questions here in Canada?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1425)

Mr. Trudeau: The Leader of the Opposition talks about leadership and the courage to face votes. Why will he not face a leadership convention?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: Order, please.

ELECTION CHALLENGE

Hon. Jake Epp (Provencher): Madam Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Right Hon. Prime Minister. He is obviously, after his answers today, hiding behind the majority he has in the House. He is opposed by eight of the ten provinces and he is opposed by 64 per cent of the Canadian people. I ask him, if he is so brave—and he said the other day that this is no time for cowards—why he is not willing to accept the challenge of the Leader of the Opposition.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, in the course of the debate on this resolution we have heard argument after argument from the other side that the referendum proposal in this resolution was unacceptable.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Let the people decide.

Mr. Trudeau: And they talk about going to the people. Well, there are provisions in this resolution for going to the people.

An hon. Member: Let's go now.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, I put it to the opposition that there are other ways of getting rid of their leader than going through an election. They will just have to take their courage in their own hands.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Epp: Madam Speaker, I direct my question again to the Right Hon. Prime Minister. Obviously the words of the Minister of Justice in London yesterday about an election were empty rhetoric. Today the Prime Minister's words are empty

rhetoric, and obviously his words on Monday about cowardice apply to him.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Epp: I ask the Right Hon. Prime Minister why he is so stubborn and why he insists that he wants his package without having the people of Canada decide on it beforehand, and why he wants to leave as his legacy a divided country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, the hon. member talks about cowardice. I wonder how one would describe a party that wants us to do their dirty work for them. Why do they not get rid of their own leader?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Oshawa.

An hon. Member: Here comes the relief.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Here is the little red rump.

Madam Speaker: Order, please.

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THE ECONOMY

IMPLEMENTATION OF WAGE CONTROLS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, there is nothing quite so lofty as a constitutional debate to bring dignity to Parliament, I always say.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Broadbent: I would like to ask—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: Order, please. I think there has been quite enough shouting for today. Let us call it quits for the shouting.

● (1430)

Mr. Broadbent: Madam Speaker, I hear my friends to the right saying something about—

Some hon. Members: You have no friends.

Mr. Beatty: Your friends are over there.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: Order, please. There are other parties in the House, besides the official opposition, that might have questions to ask.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!