

Supply

he really say that?" Mr. Speaker, of course he did. The record is quite clear in that regard. As I have said, I will yield the rest of my time to the Hon. Member for Saint-Henri—Westmount to allow him to stand up and salvage what is left of the credibility of the Liberal Party in British Columbia and say: "No. We, in fact, have had an opportunity to consult and to discuss the implications of this, and I take it all back. We will not allow cedar logs and shake bolts to be sent out of British Columbia".

I will now sit down. I will give the Hon. Member the opportunity to rise in his place and recant. I will give him the opportunity to stand up and say: "No. The Liberal Party of Canada does not support driving the final nail into the coffin of the shake and shingle industry in the Province of British Columbia".

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Questions or comments. The Hon. Member for Saint-Henri—Westmount (Mr. Johnston).

Mr. Johnston: I was very much amused by the comments of the Hon. Member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson)—

[English]

—who protests so much. I must say that I have watched the Hon. Member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson) and the Hon. Member for Skeena (Mr. Fulton) for some years. I have found their interventions to be fascinating. In view of the interventions which my Leader and I have made with respect to the concern that this Party has expressed and the demands that it has made with respect to the implications of the tariff imposed on shakes and shingles, I really do not understand the Hon. Member for Burnaby, except, as we say in Quebec—

[Translation]

He is playing petty politics.

[English]

He is trying to distort and say that we do not want a shake and shingle industry. He is trying to say that we do not want to export raw materials, when the whole purpose of the motion is to remove that tariff. That is fine. The Hon. Member can play petty politics.

I gather from the Hon. Member's remarks that he thinks that there should be an embargo in Canada and in Quebec, for example, with respect to the exportation of Canadian logs and with respect to the importation of logs. Incidentally, that has absolutely nothing to do with the issue before the House today.

Will the Hon. Member give the House a straight answer? Is he saying that there should be an embargo with regard to the importation and exportation of logs? That is a fair position, if it is one he wishes to take. I would like to hear his view.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, I certainly thought that perhaps the Hon. Member, having had an opportunity to consult with his colleagues from British Columbia, might have

wanted to rise in his place and, in a very sober and sensible manner, say: "Yes. I have considered this question, Mr. Speaker, and I do not believe that raw cedar logs and shake bolts should be allowed to be exported from British Columbia". He has had the opportunity to consider the matter. Frankly, I am amazed that, having been given the time to stand in his place to recant and to reconsider that, he has still not taken the opportunity to do that.

Rather than getting into the details of a very important and serious question, I will give up my time to allow the Hon. Member for Saint-Henri—Westmount, on a supplementary question, to stand up and indicate very clearly whether his answer to the question posed by the Hon. Member for Skeena is that he would in fact allow the export of raw cedar logs and shake bolts from British Columbia. Is he speaking on behalf of the Liberal Party of Canada? Has he consulted with his colleagues from British Columbia?

Mr. Rossi: Why don't you answer the question?

Mr. Johnston: Mr. Speaker, I hardly need to consult with anyone when it comes to the issue at hand. The Hon. Member is on the run. Apparently, he is not prepared to stand in the House and say whether or not he is in favour of an embargo with respect to the exportation and importation of logs, period, be they oak, maple or cedar. Is he prepared to stand up and say that? That is the position which one would infer from his comments. He does not have to answer the question. It strikes me that he has put himself in a typical position.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, just to deal quickly with the specific question concerning the export of raw logs, we in the New Democratic Party, and my colleagues from British Columbia in particular, have very clearly stated that we believe that the export of raw logs is the export of jobs from British Columbia. We are fundamentally opposed to the export of raw logs.

I now wish to return to the comments of the Hon. Member for Saint-Henri—Westmount. I wish to ask this question very clearly: Does the Hon. Member stand by his position that the Liberal Party of Canada would in fact support the export of raw cedar logs and shake bolts?

Mr. Rossi: You should ask that of the Hon. Member for Skeena.

Mr. Robinson: Another Liberal Member says that that is right. So we now have two Liberal Members saying that they support the export of raw cedar logs and shake bolts, and perhaps there are others who want to support that position.

Mr. Speaker, I want to—

[Translation]

Mr. Rossi: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Order! The Hon. Member for Bourassa (Mr. Rossi), on a point of order.