

he indicated he wishes to do; or, third, recognize any Hon. Member who rises on a point of order.

**An Hon. Member:** We want Skelly.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** If an Hon. Member stands, I will recognize him.

**Mr. Pinard:** I would just like to draw to the attention of the House Standing Order 71(1) which is brief and reads:

A petition to the House may be presented by a Member at any time during a sitting of the House by filing the same with the Clerk of the House.

Therefore, the Hon. Members could have filed their petitions with the Clerk of the House during the last two days without wasting the time of the House. The Hon. Member's colleague does not have to be penalized because he is interrupted. He still has the right to file his petitions with the Clerk of the House. This procedure allows Hon. Members of the Opposition and Hon. Members on this side as well to do that. That is my point. It is very clear that Standing Order 71(1) applies. Hon. Members opposite cannot complain that they lose their rights if they are interrupted. They have always the right to file their petitions with the Clerk of the House. If they had done that, we would have saved two days. Parliament would have worked. Canadians would have been proud of their Members and we would have succeeded in creating hundreds of thousands of jobs in Canada, which the Opposition is now preventing.

**Mr. Nystrom:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Government House Leader quoted Standing Order 71(1). I draw your attention, Mr. Speaker, to Standing Order 71(2) which says:

Any Member desiring to present a petition in his or her place in the House must do so during Routine Proceedings and before Introduction of Bills.

*Point of Order—Mr. Pinard*

All that our Party has been doing is what Standing Order 71(2) says we should do.

**An Hon. Member:** According to the rules.

**Mr. Evans:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I would ask that the Chair and the Table consider over the weekend the Citation 682(2) at page 211 of Beauchesne. And I ask that a ruling be made on the nature of the petitions which are being put before the House. Citations 682(2) says:

(2) A petition should seek the redress of grievances and should refrain from expressing an opinion with regard to the House, the Government or the positions taken by Members of the House. Expressions which would be in order from a Member of the House may not be in order when presented as a petition.

Mr. Speaker, it seems to me, after listening to petitions for the last two days, many of the petitions put forward, especially the ones put forward by the Official Opposition yesterday regarding the calling of an election and the crisis in Government, are definitely, in my opinion, and I would ask a ruling of the Chair and the Table officers, expressions of opinion. If they are, then they should be ruled out of order by the Chair.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** It is five o'clock. I indicated earlier to the Hon. Member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) that there may be cause to examine the petitions. I think that he or any other Hon. Member has the right to do so. That will be looked at over the weekend. The Hon. Parliamentary Secretary makes a similar request as to the nature and the matter of arguing the content of a petition. I hope the Hon. Member will give us a little more time than just over the weekend. If he would do that, perhaps I might wish all Members a good evening and a good weekend.

At 5.01 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Orders.