

they arise there is a place for a filibuster. I am not saying this is not the place.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Woolliams: I believe this is relevant, Mr. Speaker, because we have been charged with filibustering. Let us look for just a few moments at some of the things that have happened in the past. I draw this analogy. I recall that the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill)—who is not in his place tonight; and I make nothing of that—said on one occasion in the debate on the question of class or kind that if he had to speak for 50 days, that legislation would never pass, and he was prepared to do it.

There are instances where a filibuster is probably necessary. We have heard the hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Grégoire), who tonight is absent and is generally leaning up against the wall making noises, talking about a filibuster and parliament. This makes me sick, because the house will recall that when his party split up like chickens that had left the sitting hen, and spread all over the place, he said they would filibuster parliament for 100 days until they were recognized as a party. These are the people who have been throwing the spearheads and the charges during the last few weeks. I do not know what I will be called after this speech, but I have been called a hawk, a spearhead and even a piledriver; and Mr. "Leakman"—no, I mean the member for Vancouver Quadra (Mr. Deachman) tonight in the *Telegram* accused me of being a Chinook wind.

Mr. Deachman: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has no right to refer to this as a leak, because he knows perfectly well that he was struck by the full force of the hose.

Mr. Woolliams: All I have to say to the hon. member is, what a hose. Coming back to the subject of a plebiscite, I would vote for the adoption of the report now, and so would many other western Canadians, if we were sure this was not a foot in the door for other things. I believe this is relevant, Mr. Speaker. We would vote for it if we were sure in western Canada that we were not going to destroy, first of all a strong central government in Canada, that we were not going to destroy next the Governor General, that we were not going to destroy next the crown and many of the other institutions and traditions for which we stand. I say this is relevant because the people of

Canada want a plebiscite. I say that the government of this country have no mandate to implement a flag which the Canadian people do not want. That is why the Conservative party, a national party which has governed Canada equally in time with the Liberal party, demand tonight on the floor of this house a plebiscite. The Conservative party were backed by 59 per cent of the people and they are asking for a plebiscite. Since when are 59 per cent of the people to be ignored?

Mr. Winkler: It is 64 per cent.

Mr. Woolliams: Some hon. member says it is 64 per cent. Since when are they to be ignored? So in other words, not only have we a minority government, but a government which is in a minority on this issue as well.

Let me ask this question. I hear some of my hon. friends starting to holler across the way. They swell out their chests like farm roosters and say to themselves: Let the Liberals and Conservatives kill themselves off and everything will be great for us. We have been hearing that for 25 years, but those hon. members are still sitting in their small little groups making small little speeches.

Mr. Dupuis: Would the hon. member accept a question?

Mr. Woolliams: Certainly.

Mr. Dupuis: How does the hon. member know that the government is in a minority unless he permits the house to take a vote?

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, I have never seen genius until tonight. I will answer that now. The Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson), their leader, went across this country talking about a distinctive flag. Did he ever describe to the people of Ontario or to the people of the maritimes that a distinctive flag would require the removal of the union jack?

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Woolliams: I say that that is a minority view.

Mr. Dupuis: Do you want me to answer that question?

Mr. Danforth: Sit down.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): Make your own speech.

Some hon. Members: Question.