

*Supply*

**Mr. Crosbie:** You are an idiot.

**Mr. Flis:** Scoring political points is more important to the official opposition and the hon. member for St. John's West, than helping the people of Poland and Canadians of Polish descent.

**Mr. Wenman:** Why are you afraid to speak against the government?

**Mr. Flis:** Let me explain what I mean, Mr. Speaker. Martial law was imposed on Sunday, December 13, 1981.

**Mr. Cousineau:** Why don't you just listen and shut up?

**Mr. Flis:** The next morning, Monday, December 14, I called a meeting of the Polish emergency committee of Canadian parliamentarians, made up of members of all parties. The co-chairman is the hon. member for Edmonton North (Mr. Paproski). But he did not initiate such a meeting; he did not think the imposition of martial law was serious enough. A member from this side of the House had to call the meeting to formulate a motion to present in this House on December 14 and this is the motion which was worked out by representatives from all three parties. I am very proud of the members who were present such as the hon. member for Brampton-Georgetown (Mr. McDermid), the hon. member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle), and members from this side of the House. This is what we worked out:

Whereas Canadians are greatly concerned over the recent developments in Poland, and whereas Canadians strongly adhere to the principles of the Helsinki Accord with special references to basic human rights and freedoms, and whereas Canadians support the citizens of Poland in the struggle to acquire those basic freedoms to which they have a right, and whereas Pope John Paul II yesterday asked that solutions be arrived at without violence, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle):

The hon. member for Brampton-Georgetown had agreed to second this motion but when I arrived in the House he came running over to me and said "Jesse, sorry we cannot support that motion." I found out later why they could not support it. The motion read as follows:

That the House urge all nations of the world to refrain from any political or military actions that may in any way interfere with the internal affairs of Poland and that this House express the wish that Poland's internal difficulties will be solved by peaceful negotiations between the Polish government and the Polish people.

The Speaker asked if there was unanimous consent, which the NDP and the Liberal Party gave, but the Conservatives said no, Mr. Speaker. They said no to a motion worked out by all three parties, yet when it came to put the motion in the House they refused to support it because they wanted one of their own motions—less effective—without any consultation with the other two parties, to go forward first. That is what I mean by their being more interested in scoring political points than helping Canadians of Polish descent or the people in Poland.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Crosbie:** Why don't you talk to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau)? What did you say to the Prime Minister?

**Mr. Flis:** Another example of this was at a public meeting in Toronto on Thursday, December 16, 1981. Again, all three parties were present. About 3,000 people were gathered in front of Nathan Phillips Square. Following the meeting representatives from all three parties—I remember it as if it were tonight—were still on the platform and they agreed to meet the next morning in Ottawa to formulate a motion incorporating the resolutions of the Canadian Polish Congress and the thousands of Canadians gathered at Nathan Phillips Square.

The next day in the House of Commons a motion was presented without any consultation with the all-party committee which was set up for that purpose, among other things. The resolutions were very good. To give you an example, it said:

1. To press for the immediate lifting of martial law in Poland and the release of all Solidarity officials.

2. To press for the reinstatement of the rights of workers to form free trade unions.

3. To publicly state that no intervention by third parties into the internal affairs of Poland will be tolerated.

4. To send to Poland, for distribution by non-government organizations, significant economic aid in the form of food, medical supplies and agricultural machinery and feedstuffs in order that the people of Poland survive the coming winter.

All these resolutions were acceptable to this side, but again the Tories wanted to play their games. They did not want to co-operate with the other two parties, they wanted to beat everyone to the punch. We could have modified one of those resolutions and probably got unanimous consent in this House.

The mover of today's motion read the resolutions presented to him by Mr. Przetakiewicz, whose name he could not even pronounce, again showing the disrespect he holds for Canadians of Polish descent. Does the hon. member know who Mr. Przetakiewicz is? I would like to read to him from the information bulletin called "Solidarnosc", edited by Mr. Przetakiewicz. On the very back it says:

Solidarity Information Offices abroad are not officially authorized to represent 'Solidarnosc'.

**Mr. Crosbie:** So what. Do you think the Polish government is going to authorize it?

**Mr. Flis:** That is the attitude, Mr. Speaker: so what. I ask the external affairs critic for the official opposition not to disgrace the name of Solidarity by lumping it together in the same motion with the McDougall commission, and department patronage. The hon. member is so ignorant that he has not even taken the time to learn that it is the Canadian Polish Congress which represents all of the major Canadian Polish organizations in Canada including the Polish Canadian action groups and Mr. Przetakiewicz group. It is the Canadian Polish Congress which is the official spokesman on the views of Canadians of Polish descent, and if the hon. member does not know how to organize things, I would be willing to arrange a meeting with the head executive board of the Canadian Polish Congress for him and his leader since they appeared to be unable to organize even this small task. I am pleased to say that from the time Solidarity began in Poland, Canadians of