

Mr. Malone: There are no conditions. There are none. In opening this debate today, the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Bussi eres) implied that the corporation will work within the public view. That is false in the extreme. The corporation is established so that it can always make an end run around Parliament. It becomes a shield between Parliament and the existing Crown corporations. While there is a legitimate concern being voiced for the inspection of Crown corporations, the mechanism being put before us is not workable.

I suggest that the most effective way to make Crown corporations accountable is to establish a special parliamentary committee with the authority to call Crown corporations without ministerial reference, to issue subpoenas to hear sworn evidence and to take the necessary time to conduct a full and legitimate analysis of their books. Perhaps this could be done in co-operation with the Auditor General's staff, such as is done in a United States Congressional or Senate committee. This parliamentary committee could scrutinize Crown corporations much more effectively than an obscure new Crown corporation whose job it is to manage all other corporations but really does not permit us to begin to review them at all.

According to Bill C-25, the CDIC can acquire up to \$4 billion. Furthermore, it can get any other amount of money the Government ascribes to it on the basis of a dollar vote. Currently, it can run up to one-tenth of our annual deficit through the Crown corporation structure, without having the dollar vote.

Let us put into perspective what the Government is doing with \$4 billion of the taxpayers' money. That amount in one dollar bills could be laid end to end two and one-half times from Vancouver to Halifax. The CDIC is being given that amount to scrutinize and manage all other Crown corporations. It is simply an attempt to hide a sublayer of government through Crown corporations, as has been pointed out by these auditors general, and the latest Auditor General, Kenneth Dye, in particular.

In conclusion, I am pleased to hear the Government talk about the need to privatize Crown corporations. However, I am not being at all fooled by their camouflage because the fact is that the structure and the personnel it has put into place means that Canada will have an acceleration of Crown owned companies that will encroach upon the free marketplace and the right of people to purchase. It will indebt our citizens ever deeper. In the final analysis, this is not a agency for protection but an agency to veil and hide the true facts from Parliament, and consequently the Canadian people. I hope that Members of Parliament from all Parties will return to the basic principles that we are trying to establish and reject this Bill as it presently exists.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert): There follows a ten-minute period for questions or comments. Debate.

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, I wish to say a few words in this debate on Bill C-25 because I believe it gives us an excellent opportunity to set out the reason why our country is in such terrible shape. While I am not one who

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glories in gloom and doom, neither will I put my head in the sand and ignore the conditions that exist in this country.

Our country was built on the principle of free enterprise. Many people went into business on their own, sometimes with little more than the shirts on their backs. They had very little money but it was their own and they believed in what they were doing. They worked hard and prospered. When thousands of people did this, it made the country great.

We have strayed far from that free enterprise principle. Today it is difficult for an individual to invest his money because he must receive approval from numerous boards and agencies, which only leads to discouragement. It is no wonder that there are two million people unemployed today. If Canadians were permitted to invest their money, run their own business and assume responsibility for their own mistakes or successes without government interference, we would not have these conditions today. A prime reason for so much unemployment is simply that the Government is trying to run our affairs.

I have given some examples of this before, but I wish to repeat them because they are so evident. For example, the capital cost allowance was an excellent innovation. It was established in recognition of the fact that equipment, such as machinery, wears out. Because it wears out on its own, there should be enough money to eventually replace that machine. So we introduced the capital cost allowance provision which is a sound principle. It is accepted universally in free enterprise countries.

• (1550)

What did this Government do with regard to capital cost allowance? It introduced another principle. It said the machine does not wear out the first part of the year, so the Government will not allow any capital cost allowance in the first year. That disallowance, and it may seem very small, was the means of throwing hundreds of people out of work, particularly in Eastern Canada because that is where farm machinery and other equipment is manufactured. I see the Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Evans) just shaking his head—at least I hear him shaking his head. But I want to tell you, Mr. Speaker, he should look at the facts.

Mr. Evans: You should look at the facts.

Mr. Taylor: There is one agency in my constituency that cancelled an order for seven combines. That is just one agency. The order for the seven combines was cancelled because the farmers said after that provision came through "we will stick with our own. We will make our old combines do, or we will rent out the work." As a result, seven combines that would have been manufactured in Eastern Canada were not manufactured. Multiply that kind of cancellation from scores of dealers across the country and you begin to see why Government policy has been so influential in causing unemployment.

In this Bill we have an aggravation of Government policy. We have another corporation that is supposed to solve the problems of Canada. I have not yet seen a corporation that