

*Time Allocation*

With respect to this motion for time allocation, I regret very much that it has become necessary because of the delaying tactics of the Opposition to go this far. I have myself consistently argued that extension of the hours of the House was a better method of allowing for debate and getting through Bills, and we have done that. On Friday, Madam Speaker, we tried to extend hours, to work a little longer on a Friday afternoon. Certainly, government Members were predisposed to work here.

**Mr. Tobin:** Say that with a straight face, Doug.

**Mr. Lewis:** All government Members with straight faces enjoy working on Friday, and we were prepared to do the business of the nation.

**Mr. Tobin:** You did not want to go back to your constituency?

**Mr. Lewis:** When we called for extension of hours and suggested that we were prepared to work so that this Bill could go to committee, it was blocked by members of the Opposition Parties. It was blocked with some glee. So if the Canadian public wants to know where the minds of opposition Members are on a Friday afternoon, they are elsewhere than in the Chamber, because they were not prepared to work beyond two o'clock.

I suggest to you, Madam Speaker, that several Canadians, hundreds of thousands of Canadians, were working beyond two o'clock on Friday afternoon. We were prepared to join them—

**Mr. MacLellan:** You were the only one, if you were.

**Mr. Lewis:**—but the opposition Members were not.

**Mr. MacLellan:** Your nose is growing.

**Mr. Lewis:** As I indicated earlier, Madam Speaker, the Bill was debated on May 24, May 25, May 27, June 1 and June 3, five days at second reading. Some 20 members have spoken on the Bill. I was corrected by the Hon. Member for Hamilton East (Ms. Coppins). I suggest to you, Madam Speaker, that it has been our tactic, when government Members have made the point of the Government on a Bill, to see no need to filibuster the Bill in the way the opposition Members do. For that reason, our interventions have been circumspect in nature.

We have had two reasoned amendments. The reason for the reasoned amendments is that there are simply not enough Members here in the Opposition parties interested in debating this Bill. In order to freshen the list, not to have reasoned debate but to freshen the list so that the same person can speak over and over again, we have accepted two reasoned amendments from the Opposition. We have had some 8.5 hours' debate on this Bill. We submit that that is ample time to make one's point.

We have tried on other occasions, and we were successful on one occasion, to have extension of hours. We tried again on Friday, as I indicated, to move this matter along, but we are

continually being stalled by the Opposition in an effort to stall a very good Bill.

I want to spend the second part of my argument, if I may, just referring to this Bill and what it is about to do. We have embarked on a campaign to privatize Crown corporations for which there is no longer a public policy or for which we can operate the public policy in a different way at a saving to the taxpayer. We have done this with several companies so that the Canadian taxpayer is no longer in the gunpowder business, no longer in the communications business, and no longer builds planes. We are out of the hotel business. Guess what, Madam Speaker, the Canadian people are now, thanks to our moves, catching up with the rest of the world. Privatization is the way Governments around the world are moving.

**Mr. Manly:** Margaret Thatcher?

**Mr. Lewis:** No. France, for example, and Japan, not Margaret Thatcher. I knew my hon. friend would clutch that weapon of Margaret Thatcher to his breast. I knew that. But it is in France. Catch up with France. We have dinosaurs in the Opposition. We have the dinosaur Liberal Party and the *status quo* New Democratic Party whose members say, "No privatization. Privatization may be happening around the world, but we are not going to let it happen in Canada because we like being in the business of building airplanes and losing money. We like being in the business of running hotels and losing money. We like being in the business of gunpowder". All of these things they like. They like losing money. We have turned business over to the private sector, and guess what, Madam Speaker, in de Havilland alone there are an additional 1,000 Canadians working because it was privatized.

• (1230)

I know my friends in the New Democratic Party object to those 1,000 Canadians working. Many, I would point out, are paying union dues as well. When companies are privatized there is more employment, more growth and more vitality. And that is what this Bill is all about and what the Government is doing.

We intend to proceed to put this Bill through second reading and we intend to see our program of privatization proceed. Canada will then be catching up with the rest of the world. The dinosaurs may cling to the *status quo* of public ownership and an attitude of, "Don't worry about it". But they will find when they get into the election, which they want so badly, that they will be out of step, not only with Canadians but with the rest of the world. We have things to do, Madam Speaker.

[Translation]

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** Madam Speaker, I think it is deplorable on the part of the Government to want to use its overwhelming majority of 208 Members as well as the Standing Orders of the House which, as we know, are open to interpretation because they were drafted in good faith by Members of this House who, in their negotiations with