

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I think it is incumbent upon me to take the matter under advisement. I will attempt to render a decision on the acceptability of the motion presented by the Hon. Member later this day. In the meantime, we will carry on with debate.

**Mr. Darling:** Mr. Speaker, we have had a good many of these Bills presented to us in this Parliament. It is rather staggering to go over some of them. We have had presented to us Bill C-30 for \$12 billion; Bill C-59 for \$14 billion; Bill C-111 for \$6.6 billion; Bill C-125 for \$7 billion; Bill C-151 for \$10.7 billion. Now we have a Bill before us, Bill C-21, for the highest amount, some \$29.55 billion. This brings the total to \$102 billion all in one Parliament, and we are still going.

This Bill, as we are all aware, is to pay for past borrowing. One third of tax dollars are used to service our national debt. Our national debt could be as high as \$180 billion, most of it because of this Government. All Canadians should realize that governments borrow money just like individuals. However, when the Government goes to market and asks for \$29 billion, it has the effect of driving up interest rates for everyone else. This is precisely what is happening today.

I am well aware, Mr. Speaker, that the Government needs money to operate. It needs money just to pay interest on its debt. However, I believe the Canadian people have already made up their minds as to what they are going to do with this Government when the next election comes along. They are going to say we have had enough of them, we are going to give them their walking papers. Kick the rascals out.

A lot of us are interested in how this money being sought is going to be spent, Mr. Speaker. Rather than just saying it should not be passed, some of us might like to make some suggestions as to what could be done. Certainly it has been a profligate Government. It has been handing out money like a drunken sailor to various pet charities, shall we say. I refer to such programs as the Winter Works Program and others in ridings throughout the country. Coincidentally, the lion's share of this money seems to fall in Liberal ridings, primarily those of Cabinet Ministers.

I suggest that the Government could use a considerable amount of money this year and in succeeding years to combat one of the greatest and most serious problems we have, that of acid rain. The Minister of the Environment (Mr. Caccia) is meeting with his counterparts from nine European countries as well as from the ten provinces. I hope they are going to come to some conclusions and that the federal and provincial Governments will put their money where their mouth is. They should enact legislation to reduce nitric oxide emissions from automobiles and sulphur dioxide emissions from these huge smelters.

Canada is certainly a fairly substantial polluter, emitting some five million tons a year. This compares to our American friends' emissions of 25 million tons a year. Comparing that on a population basis it should be more or less ten to one, so we are certainly not lily white by any manner or means. I therefore hope this Government will take positive steps in this

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area this year, because it will only have the power to do so for this year.

The Government also spends a good deal of money advertising itself. We see these full-page ads extolling the Ministers and their Departments, and that runs into many millions of dollars. Despite the high powered advertising by the soap companies and various others, the biggest advertiser, the biggest spender, is the federal Government. It is about time it looked to cutting down on advertising considerably. Another particular interest of mine is the tourist industry, the second most important industry in Canada. It generates \$18 billion a year. There will be some comments about that tomorrow because I believe the Opposition Day motion will be on the tourist industry, and the Government should be doing more to help this industry which employs 1.1 million people. The name of the game is to get more people back to work, which will turn the economy around. I am hoping some things can be done in that area.

We have some real prizes when it comes to subsidizing various Departments. I am thinking particularly of Crown corporations. I think of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation which has been referred to by many people as the "crazy broadcasting corporation" and it is costing the taxpayers about \$900 million a year.

**Mr. Masters:** About the same as public broadcasting in the U.S.

**Mr. Darling:** I am well aware of that. However, it is a \$900 million expenditure. When a great event takes place here in the House of Commons, the Budget or the Prime Minister's resignation, when you go out front you see the whole place is cluttered up with CBC trucks. CTV and Global, which manage to put out pretty good programs, do not need all that paraphernalia. It makes you wonder how much of this \$900 million touch could be cut considerably. Canada Post is a Crown corporation which is supposed to deliver the mail within a reasonable time at reasonable expense. We do not expect Canada Post to operate as a self-sufficient entity right now. A lot of Members are taking a very dim view of Canada Post going into the general store business to try to raise money which will put small business people out of business. That is another area into which the Government should check.

● (1540)

There is also the \$4 billion slush fund, which is a reserve fund for whatever the Government is going to do. There is a Bill for \$25 billion as well as the \$4 billion. Maybe this is to be held as a special election fund to bring out additional goodies to try to save the Government as it slides downward into oblivion. I see you are signalling to me, Mr. Speaker, that my time is up.

**Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East):** Mr. Speaker, I am glad to have a few minutes to make some remarks this afternoon on Bill C-21, which is an Act to provide borrowing authority to the Government for \$29.55 billion for the fiscal year 1984-85. This is made up of \$25.6 billion for financial requirements and