

### Supply

That this House condemns the government for its continued failure to establish and to adhere to a clear and high standard of public sector ethics, for its incessant inability to function within the framework of existing legislation, guidelines and standards and for its reluctance to bring forward strict new codes and legislation with regard to conflicts and other public ethics matters.

I want to deal with the last part of the motion, "other public ethics matters", and participate in the debate. Before I begin I should take up where the member for Halifax West left off.

**Mr. Crosby:** I am leaving.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** He says he is leaving. That is fine. It seems to me that when the government wants to show leadership it has a responsibility to prosecute its legislation. The fact of the matter is that it did bring in Bill C-43, the subject matter was referred to an all-party committee and that all-party committee reported last June.

If the government wants to show leadership and it indicates very clearly that it means business, it should bring forward the legislation and so indicate to the House leaders of the opposition parties.

That is not the concern I have. I want to talk about family business. The folks are watching. It is 6.35 p.m. and therefore this is a family show. Folks, the kids can stay up and watch and listen because we are talking here about family business. They will see it unfold as I talk about the family business.

For any government to establish ethics in government and restore the confidence of the people in the process, not just in this government but in the process of Parliament, three pieces of legislation are necessary. First, an Election Expenses Act, which we have. Second, a conflict of interest law, which we do not have. We all remember the Sinclair Stevens affair. Have we forgotten it? How quickly we forget. Third and by no means least, effective lobby legislation. That is the family business I want to talk about today.

Along with that is the great existential question of our time: Is it better to know the Prime Minister or to be the Prime Minister? That is the question, dear friends. The government was elected in 1984. I saw the picture; I saw the movie. We saw the greatest insurgency of lobbying going on on the Hill.

• (1840)

Frank Moores who had helped the Prime Minister get here, a good buddy of the Prime Minister; Mr. Gary Ouellet, who shared lodgings with the finance minister, in fact helped the Prime Minister in his struggle against the former Prime Minister and leader of the Conservative Party.

Suddenly all sorts of stories started to break. Mr. Moores was reported to have obtained somebody a lobster fishing licence for \$2,000 when the licences were no longer being issued. He told us today in committee it was \$500 a month for four months. I figure that is \$2,000 for a fishing licence. He was to arrange a meeting with the minister so that he could get the licence. The same Mr. Moores was appointed to the board of directors of Air Canada. There he was acting as a lobbyist for an airbus manufacturer and lobbying Air Canada to sell them airbuses.

We only have to put on the record the Prime Minister's own words about lobbying. In 1985 he said in this House:

The fifth component of this comprehensive approach to public sector ethics is the undertaking of this Government to introduce into the House of Commons, at an early date, legislation to monitor lobbying activity and to control the lobbying process by providing a reliable and accurate source of information on the activities of lobbyists.

We did have the Cooper committee in 1986. We studied the question and made recommendations. We recommended what we thought was a good start to lobbying control. We said that we should note the specific issue on which the lobbyist was lobbying the public office holders.

We believe that a lobbyist is a lobbyist is a lobbyist and that tiers are not enough. We did not envisage Tier I and Tier II lobbyists. They did. We recommended that the registrar of the lobby registry have the power on a random basis to verify the information on the lobby registry. We were interested in knowing what they were spending on a campaign to obtain the item for which they were lobbying and how much money they spent on it.

We did not get any of those things. What we got in Bill C-82 is now the law of the land. It is the business card. The only information that is on the registry you can get on the business card. That is what it is known as in the lobby industry.

However the proliferation continued. The GCI, Government Consultants Inc.—have you noticed how they always have these very fancy names and government is always mentioned—is part of the family. It was Gary Ouellet, Fred Doucet and his brother. The only thing that I have a problem with is with Gary Ouellet today. I