Export Development Act

Mr. Whelan: The hon, member is making a gosh darned good speech.

Mr. Nowlan: I hear the former parliamentary secretary for fisheries, who grows tomatoes, interjecting. That is meant to be no personal slight. I am saying nothing against that great Canadian who was part of this whole government machinery. The fact is that Canadians wonder, and I sometimes wonder, why we are debating the government organization bill, why we are getting involved in these areas when, frankly, we are only concerned with our own pockets. The great majority of Canadians—

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker-

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon, member rising on a point of order?

Mr. Forrestall: It is not a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the hon. gentleman would permit a question. Is he speaking on the bill in front of us?

• (9:40 p.m.)

Mr. Nowlan: I am glad the point of order is from that member. He is one of the most relevant members and relevant contributors.

Mr. Forrestall: All I did was ask a question.

Mr. Nowlan: If you have a question, ask it through the Speaker.

Mr. Forrestall: I did.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. My understanding is that the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East (Mr. Forrestall) has a question. If the hon. member for Annapolis Valley (Mr. Nowlan) is prepared to receive it, I think the House would be interested.

Mr. Forrestall: My question is based on some very relevant comments which were made in the gallery a few moments ago. Isabelle wonders whether she can come down and straighten this out.

Mr. Nowlan: Isabelle may be the name of a new cone going to the moon. I have not gone to the moon yet.

An hon. Member: Oh, no?

Mr. Nowlan: The Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Pepin) is one of the more constructive, charitable and intelligent ministers.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Bell: That is not saying much.

Mr. Nowlan: As my whip says, while lashing me across the back, that is not saying much. Be that as it may, it is time that we in Canada started to define some policy. I am completely against the policy of pay out from the pocket with no philosophy. How are we going to get the money in the pocket? I am not accusing the minister of

this; I will do that later when we get to some other issues. Right now I am talking about the Export Development Act. I suggest to Your Honour and members opposite—

Mr. Deachman: Carried.

Mr. Nowlan: It is not carried yet.

An hon. Member: He is still quoting.

Mr. Nowlan: I hear echoes saying "Nowlan, you shouldn't get serious because people do not want you to be serious". Unless we start getting serious in Canada about some of the problems, this institution will go down the drain.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nowlan: I am not fooling with the member for Ottawa West (Mr. Francis), the member for Dartmouth-Halifax East, or wherever the hell he may be from, or with any other member. There will come a time when institutions will land and when people will land. It is time to be serious.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nowlan: I agree with some of the litany opposite. I may not have been the most serious person when I started and I may be taking too long to make my point.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nowlan: I agree with the "Hear, hears." What bothers me is that Bill C-184, and most other bills introduced in this chamber, are fine for one specific purpose. No one can take exception to them. However, as far as concerns the great malady, illness or sickness that is across this land tonight, they do not do anything to resolve the fact that there are "X" number of unemployed and "X" number of people on welfare. I am not suggesting that if this party were in power, as it was in 1960 and 1962, the same situation would not be in tune. I state to members opposite that I do not stand here tonight as a hypocrite. The member for Madawaska-Victoria (Mr. Corbin) can laugh, because he has not been through the battles. He is still a neophyte. In terms of eons of political time, I am on the moon and he is left in the swamp.

An hon. Member: There is no doubt that you are on the moon.

Mr. Nowlan: Many members opposite are not tuned in to the realities of this land. I was a visitor in the opposition lobby and in the opposition gallery.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Earlier the hon. member used a Latin phrase. If I could reiterate it, I suggest with great respect that he and I should be ad idem as to what is relevant before the House at this time. I invite the hon. member to return to being relevant.

[Mr. Nowlan.]