

*National Development Policy*

**Mr. Green:** I am interested to see how the hon. member for Essex East (Mr. Martin) turns himself into a chameleon when he speaks on this amendment.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Oh, I have no intention.

**Mr. Green:** Our proposals for a national development policy, of course, were a great deal more—

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Nebulous.

**Mr. Green:**—Canadian, vigorous and beneficial to the country than this milk and water amendment brought in by the Leader of the Opposition yesterday. I have here a copy of a real national development policy amendment which we moved about a year and a half ago on February 11, 1957. It was in these words:

—that the welfare of the Canadian people requires the adoption now of a national development policy which will develop our natural resources for the maximum benefit of all parts of Canada, encourage more processing of those resources in Canada, correct the present serious unfavourable trade balances, foster wider financial participation by Canadians in the development of our resources, and promote greater opportunity and employment for a steadily increasing population.

That amendment, Mr. Speaker, represented the thinking of the Conservative party when in opposition. It represents our thinking today and it emphasizes what we have been trying to do as a government during the last 12 months. It also points to the path that we shall be following in the years that lie ahead. We really do not need any amendment such as that proposed by the Leader of the Opposition yesterday to help us on the way. I refer members to this strange amendment which reads:

This house is of the opinion that, in present circumstances of declining private investment, a balanced policy of national development—

Just what he means by “a balanced policy” nobody knows, unless it was intended to appeal to different parts of the country in the way in which those different parts would prefer to interpret it.

—requires consideration by the government of active measures to meet the urgent needs of social capital—

We did not get a definition of that. I believe this is a favourite expression of Professor Lamontagne—

**Mr. Pickersgill:** And also of the minister of northern affairs.

**Mr. Green:**—economic adviser to the Liberal party at the present time. The use of these words makes me wonder whether or not he wrote the speech the Leader of the Opposition gave yesterday. Here we have:

[Mr. Martin (Essex East).]

—the urgent needs of social capital especially in the form of transportation facilities, municipal improvements, and other facilities to stimulate economic development and to promote social well-being in the settled areas of Canada.

**Mr. Cardiff:** Perhaps it was Knowles who wrote the speech?

**Mr. Green:** I never thought of that. It is now suggested that perhaps Mr. Stanley Knowles wrote the speech. He may have had something to do with it, but I believe he would have written a much better one if he had had anything to do with the drafting. This reference to social capital had one strange effect which perhaps hon. members might have noticed. It was just like a great big piece of bait on a fish hook for the C.C.F. group and the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Herridge) rose to the bait and swallowed it, hook, line and sinker, without batting an eyelash.

**Mr. Garland:** Will the minister permit a question?

**Mr. Green:** Yes.

**Mr. Garland:** I wonder if he would care to say how many times his own Minister of Finance (Mr. Fleming) referred to this term “social capital” in his budget address?

**Mr. Green:** I do not keep track of how many times my colleagues refer to social capital. They may have caught this bad idea from the other side of the house. In any event, it would be extremely helpful to have a definition of just what social capital means. If it means the same thing to the Leader of the Opposition as it means to the members of the C.C.F., then we are witnessing quite a change across the floor of the House of Commons. We may be witnessing the first exciting hours of a courtship between these two forlorn opposition parties.

However, I would point out to the Leader of the Opposition and his social capitalists that he had better be careful about getting too friendly with these people over in the corner.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** That is what got you into office, was it not, under the leadership of Stanley Knowles?

**Mr. Green:** I am afraid the Liberal party is never going to get into office on an amendment such as the one it moved yesterday. I have here a statement of just what this group in the corner stand for, and what they mean when they talk about social capital. The heading is “Capitalism still target of C.C.F.”. The article is from the *Vancouver Province* of June 2, 1958. At that time, at their provincial meeting, they passed the following resolution:

The C.C.F. will not rest content until capitalism has been eradicated and the full program of socialistic planning has been instituted.