

Oral Questions

the Auditor General's report. What I pointed out was what the Auditor General said, that of 33 key criteria which the Auditor General feels should be included in any framework for Crown corporations, C-123 fails to meet some 26. In view of that fact, and in view of the fact that the Government, without any reference to Parliament whatsoever, over a three-month period created four new Crown corporations, and is acting now to gag Parliament on Canagrex, why will the Prime Minister not reconsider his policy? Why will he not stand Canagrex to one side? Why will he not scrap Bill C-123 and bring in a Crown corporations' policy which meets the objections of the Auditor General and the Parliament of Canada?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I am sure the Hon. Member is not serious in suggesting we scrap a Bill on which some 86 hours have already been spent.

Some Hon. Members: Put it aside.

Mr. Trudeau: Canagrex has been studied for 86 hours by this Parliament. If the Hon. Member is asking now about Bill C-123, then we suggest that the debate begin on that also and that we hear which particular criteria, in the view of the Hon. Member opposite, have not been met by that Bill.

Mr. Beatty: They are listed in the Auditor General's report.

Mr. Trudeau: I understand the Hon. Member has a copy of the Auditor General's report in his hand and he wants to make some arguments—

Mr. Clark: All you have are your jack boots.

Mr. Trudeau:—on the criteria. The Leader of the Opposition wants to get in on this, but I would suggest it would be a courtesy to his Member, to his backbencher, if he let me continue the argument with him. But the Leader of the Opposition is not known for his courtesy and he would like to act as a dictator—

Mr. Clark: I do not take lectures on courtesy from you.

Mr. Trudeau:—but unfortunately he cannot find in his Party people who want to be dictated to.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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[Translation]

INCOME TAX ACT

ALLEGED OMISSION OF NOTARIES IN IDENTIFICATION OF PROFESSIONS IN SECTION 16(2)

Hon. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance. In his Bill to amend the statute law relating to income tax, I think there was a very serious oversight which the Minister will notice in Clause

16(2), which identifies the professions of accountant, dentist, lawyer, medical doctor, veterinarian and chiropractor. The Minister of Finance is aware that in Quebec, we have a very important profession, namely that of notary. Why is this profession not identified in the Minister's Bill?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): I shall check with my officials to find out if there has indeed been an oversight. If such is the case, an amendment will be proposed, when the Bill is considered in Committee of the Whole, to include this very important profession for which I have the greatest respect.

Mr. La Salle: Madam Speaker, on behalf of Quebec's 2,000 notaries and on behalf of a profession that has existed in Quebec for well nigh 300 years, does the Minister undertake to add to his legislation the profession of notary, which is very well known in Quebec?

Mr. Lalonde: As I said before to the Hon. Member, I shall check whether there was an oversight, and if that is the case, I shall see to it that a correction be made at the time the Bill is considered in Committee of the Whole. That is when amendments to a bill are made.

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• (1440)

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

TIME ALLOCATION FOR REPORT STAGE AND THIRD READING OF BILL C-85

Mr. Bert Hargrave (Medicine Hat): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture regarding the Canagrex issue. In view of the Minister's abrupt indication last night that he will proceed with closure, he must surely be aware of the total opposition to this legislation as it presently stands by almost all the organized beef cattle producers in Canada. He must know that beef cattle producers have requested that cattle and beef products be removed from the Bill unless the buy-sell provisions are cancelled.

How can the Minister justify such an extreme procedure when only 19 hours—and that may add up to five days—but only 19 hours of debate took place on second reading, and less than two hours at report stage?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Madam Speaker, the motion that I put through was because of the long talk that had taken place about Canagrex, even before it entered this House.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Clark: That is a new parliamentary principle.