

Supply

Government would like to hear. But we must return to the point.

I have had dealings with advertising agencies. I have discussed with Cabinet Ministers in the Province of Saskatchewan their dealings with advertising agencies. The onus is on that Cabinet Minister to tell the advertising agencies, no matter what their political stripe, about the program which they want to advertise and sell in order to educate and provide information to the public. The Cabinet Minister asks those advertising agencies to prepare a presentation, and two, five or ten advertising agencies might come forward with a presentation. If the agency about which the hon. gentleman spoke had come forward with a recommendation in its presentation that would save \$500,000, and then submitted a tender, that would have been right on track. That would have lived up to the unctuous and sanctimonious conditions which were laid down by the Prime Minister in the election campaign of last summer. Don't give me any gears about that. I have been there. That kind of competent and capable advice is required. But how it is used is another matter. I submit that it was misused in an untendered process with a brother-in-law of the Minister of Finance, no matter how good the firm or how good the advice.

Mr. Schellenberg: Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the comments which were made by the Hon. Member for Regina West (Mr. Benjamin). He spoke quite eloquently about past practice. He said that he did not expect the Liberal Government to appoint Tories or NDP Members, or for a Conservative Government to appoint Liberal or NDP Members. I wonder if he could comment on the fact that this Government has appointed more Members from other Parties than any other Government before it? The Conservative Government has appointed Stephen Lewis as the Ambassador to the United Nations and Lloyd Francis as the Ambassador to Portugal. Indeed, does that not show that the Prime Minister did have an option in the way in which appointments were made?

Finally, indeed, when the Gallup poll indicates that 60 per cent of the people in Canada are proud to call themselves Conservatives, is it hard to find a Conservative to appoint?

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, after the Hon. Member mentioned Stephen Lewis, I wish he would send me a list. Every political Party, when it has been in power in Canada, has appointed people from other political parties. There is nothing new about that. I could submit a list of the names of people which the NDP Government of Saskatchewan appointed when it was in power.

Some Hon. Members: Name them.

Mr. Benjamin: Governments have smartened up and recognized that there might be some people in other Parties who have something to offer and who can be of assistance to the Government of the day in a non-partisan manner. All smart political Parties make appointments of people from other Parties.

I would like to say that when the then Premier of Saskatchewan received words about the recommendation of the appointment of a former Liberal candidate, who proved to be an extremely competent and capable person in that field, he made the appointment. The Premier got bawled out by some CCFers for doing that, but he appointed the gentleman. He is still there. That goes back to 1962 and he is still there and is an excellent public servant. But that is not the problem and that is not what is at question. I wish the Hon. Member would read the damn motion. Does he think it is appropriate? If he thinks so, let him get up and say so. That is all we want to know.

• (1510)

Mr. Tobin: Mr. Speaker, my good friend across the way was making the comment that every Government has appointed members of other Parties. That is the way it has always been, both provincially and federally in this country.

Mr. Benjamin: Not always. I didn't say always.

Mr. Tobin: Hon. Members opposite said, "Name them". Senator Jack Marshall was a fine and outstanding member of the Progressive Conservative Party from the riding of Humber-Port au Port-St. Barbe for a period of 12 or 14 years. He was named to the Senate by the former Prime Minister, the Right Hon. Pierre Trudeau. I can think of Senator Duff Roblin who was named to the Senate by the same former Prime Minister. There was also a former Progressive Conservative Premier. Hon. Members opposite are not going to convince Canadians—

Mr. Benjamin: Don't use up all of my ten minutes.

Mr. Tobin: I won't use all of your ten minutes. They will not convince Canadians in the slightest with that kind of silly attack. Because they have named two outstanding people, Stephen Lewis and Lloyd Francis, the Conservatives think that all of a sudden they have filled the quota. If the quota system is one Liberal, one New Democrat and 1,000 Tories, that will not convince anyone. Find more compelling arguments, if you can. That is my only argument. I wonder if my friend would agree.

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, I want to say thank you to the Progressive Conservative Government for the appointment of Stephen Lewis. I want to thank the former Liberal Government for appointing Mr. Justice Berger, Mr. Leggatt, John Gilbert, all former Hon. Members of this Chamber.

Mr. Deans: Ed Schreyer.

Mr. Benjamin: Yes, Ed Schreyer, the Governor General, and that had nothing to do with Ed Schreyer's politics. So we appreciate that.

Mr. Deans: It's appropriate.

Mr. Benjamin: We are not questioning that, Mr. Speaker. If a Government wants to appoint 20 people to the board of directors of Canadian National or Air Canada, it has a right