

Government had already made a commitment to sell it by that time, the legislation had not been introduced. I found that 69.6 per cent of my constituents who responded said to sell it and only 17.7 per cent said no. On the question of selling Petro-Canada, 64.3 per cent of my constituents said to sell it and only 28.8 per cent said no. On the question of selling Canada Post, 62.3 per cent of my constituents said to sell it and only 30.2 per cent said no. On the question of selling Air Canada, 55 per cent of my constituents said to sell it and only 34.4 per cent said no. On the question of the CBC, 49.5 per cent of my constituents said to sell it and only 44.5 per cent said no.

Will the Hon. Member tell us whether he believes that I do not represent a typical part of Canada, and whether there is some peculiarity in my constituency that is not reflected in the other 281 constituencies in this country?

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Speaker, I would point out to the Hon. Member that since his Government announced this policy of privatization it has fallen in the polls from approximately 50 per cent of the support of Canadians to just over 30 per cent. In the Province of Quebec, where the Progressive Conservatives won a smashing victory in 1984 with 57 seats, they have been standing in third place according to public opinion polls, behind the New Democratic Party as well as the Official Opposition. I believe that seems to reflect the fact that Canadians are extremely concerned and reserved about the kinds of policies which have been advanced by the Government, including the policy of privatization.

The Hon. Member for York East (Mr. Redway) has received responses which presumably reflect a fair number of people who elected him. I am not sure of the situation in his constituency, but I would point out to him that there are many fewer people in his constituency who are prepared to vote Conservative today than actually did so a couple of years ago.

I also point out to him that it is the responsibility of Governments to govern and not simply to bend with every wind, and change policy with every opinion poll. My party has taken positions for the long term which on many occasions have raised questions among certain Canadians. However, we have stuck to our guns on matters of principle and we have been proven right again and again. We have not allowed ourselves to be deflected because one or two opinion polls suggested that today we will not necessarily be popular.

It is up to the Government not to sell Canadair in response to the opinion of a few people in a Member's riding, but to implement an aerospace strategy which will ensure that Canadians can continue to participate in this important industry in the next half century. That is the question that needs to be answered. It is my opinion that by withdrawing totally from the aerospace industry, the Government of Canada is making it almost impossible for Canadians to have an industry that will be viable, effective and vibrant at the turn of the century.

### *Canadair Limited Divestiture Act*

**Mr. Waddell:** Madam Speaker, I want to comment on what the Conservative Member, whose riding I believe is York East (Mr. Redway), has said.

**Mr. Redway:** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Much as I would love to hear the Hon. Member's comments, I understand that it is contrary to the rules to comment on a comment, and that in fact we should be commenting on the principal speech that was given in this debate.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** I am sure the Hon. Member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) will be commenting on the comments of his colleague, the Member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy).

**Mr. Waddell:** I just wanted to know his riding.

**Mr. Cassidy:** It is York East.

**Mr. Redway:** It is about time.

**Mr. Waddell:** The Hon. Member will know that there was a Member from York East who sat in the House for 23 years. His name was "Silent Bob McGregor". He was a Tory whom I believe sat here until 1958 and never said anything for 23 years. He made a bad mistake by standing up to make a speech because he was promptly defeated in the next election. I know my political history of York East, but the present Hon. Member for York East is very loquacious and makes speeches all the time.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** Order. I am sure the Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy) would much rather hear questions about his speech.

**Mr. Waddell:** Madam Speaker, I have a comment and a question. The Hon. Member spoke about the history of Crown corporations in Canada. I point out to him that Canada has about 12 per cent of corporations in the public sector, which is not any greater than most successful industrialized countries in the western world.

The Hon. Member for York East conducted a poll in his riding. I, too, conducted a poll and I will attempt to provide him with the figures. I recall that selling Petro-Canada was very unpopular. Privatization has been a great part of Tory rhetoric. I suggest the Hon. Member read my speech. I referred to Professor John Langford, who is Professor of Public Administration at the University of Victoria. He is an expert on privatization and indicated, in a summary of his speech, that the support for privatization among the public was by those people who make more than \$50,000 a year and tend to be in private business. I suggest that these are the people who like to profit by selling Canadian Crown corporations. They can buy them at fire sale prices, as will happen in this case.

I want to ask the Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy) about the alternatives he mentioned and what the Government could have done instead of selling the Crown