

*Government Orders*

in the world yet we are selling the furniture in order to pay the rent.

I am afraid—the hon. member is giving me the look—that the next thing we are going to see on the selling block is the House of Commons. We will privatize it, Mr. Speaker.

The hon. member was dead on in his question.

**An hon. member:** Investment.

**Mr. Harb:** Of course. He has a defence for everything. There is a defence for everything. The hon. member is trying to defend the government action.

In 1969, there was the Telesat Act. I am going to give this example again, because it really irked me.

• (1330)

In 1969 when the Telesat Canada Act was introduced, the main purpose of the act at the time was for the federal government to enter into a partnership with the private sector so more money could be injected into research and development. That is what the objective was, Mr. Speaker.

Now, 30 years later, we are still in the same situation. There has not been a lot of improvement in the area of research and development on the part of the private sector, so the mandate of the federal government has not been met. That being the case, why do we turn around and sell Telesat? Why, why?

Mr. Speaker, you will notice it is quiet on the other side of the House, absolutely quiet.

**An hon. member:** Don't worry, Mac, they have one year left, one year at the most.

**Mr. Harb:** The hon. member says one year. I cannot wait. I cannot wait. But the damage has been so great that I am just beginning to wonder where we start. Where do we start? Everything we stand for as a country is being questioned in the name of deficit reduction.

Everything that is going to be sold as a result of the enactment of Bill C-3 will be justified by any minister who is selling something by pointing out that the proceeds will go to the deficit reduction fund. It is a fund that will not kick in until 1996.

**Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston):** Mr. Speaker, I did not intend to speak on Bill C-3, but I have been listening to my colleagues in the Liberal Party speak on

this bill and I became concerned about its provisions. It is not a bill that I was responsible for or paid much attention to until today. I am moved by some of the very persuasive arguments made by my friend from Broadview—Greenwood and other colleagues on this side of the House.

Much to my regret, I note that members of the Conservative Party and members of the New Democratic Party seem to be involved in some type of—and I use the term loosely—conspiracy to have this bill pushed through the House without much debate or consideration.

This bill is entitled an act respecting the acquisition, administration and disposition of real property by the Government of Canada. We have been told that this is a technical bill, that there is not much in terms of substance to the bill and to a large extent that is true. It involves a lot of technical provisions dealing with the disposition of Crown assets and, in particular, real property.

I was reading a summary of the bill from the Library of Parliament and it sums up the purpose of the bill as follows:

Bill C-3 seeks to modernize and streamline the law governing most transactions involving federal real property. To this end it would bring together under a single statute the general authority for the sale, purchase, leasing and licensing of all manner of federally owned property.

That is a commendable goal, to try to streamline into a single scheme the sale and disposition of all Crown lands and assets. There are certain exceptions of course. Under this particular piece of legislation, there are certain lands and properties that do not fall within the ambit of Bill C-3, in particular properties that are governed under the National Parks Act, the Indian Act, the Territorial Lands Act, the Canada Petroleum Resources Act and the Fishing and Recreational Harbours Act. Any properties governed by those pieces of legislation will not be caught by the provisions of Bill C-3.

One of the major omissions of this particular piece of legislation is, as some of my colleagues have pointed out, a central depository, a place where any member of the public or any member of Parliament or any group or organization can go to determine what has happened to a particular parcel of land, to obtain information about a particular transaction involving a Crown asset or real property.