

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, October 31, 1983

The House continued its sitting.

● (0000)

Mr. Doug Anguish (The Battlefords-Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Member who just spoke has shown that the Tories are in for tricks and treats. They have brought us into these extended hours because they want to show sincere concern for the producers of western Canada but at the same time, when we are only partially through all of the motions and amendments, we see a Member from the Conservative Party rising in the House asking that we close down debate on this very important issue for the people who represent constituencies in the West.

I intend being heard this evening, until we get through all of these motions, about the very serious nature of this Bill and the effect it can have on grain producers in the communities of western Canada. It shows that over the years the Liberals and the Tories have been exactly the same. One can look at the \$50,000 a year contribution they each get from Canadian Pacific. It shows over many years, Mr. Speaker, that the Liberals and Tories are exactly the same whether you look at the \$50,000 a year contribution which they each get from Canadian Pacific or whether we look back to the times of earlier elections, in the early 1800s.

I want to quote for the record from "A Record of the Conservative Administration 1878—1882" in preparation for an upcoming election campaign. Reference is made in the *Toronto Telegram* as follows:

It is all very well for the chief organ of the Reform party to appeal to former friends to come to the rescue of the party now, and save it from annihilation.

This is the case here today. The quote continues:

But in many quarters the appeal will not be met with a ready response. The organ has been abusing these people for years, and can hardly expect them to swallow all its abuse and meekly turn round and do its bidding. After the rout of September, 1878,—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The Chair questions the relevance of the Hon. Member's quotation to the specific amendment before the House.

Mr. Anguish: Mr. Speaker, it may not have been when you were very alert in the House this evening. I am speaking at twelve o'clock in the evening. I am quoting from a document which has a lot of relevance to the issue we are debating this evening. I think you should listen very closely. You can look at the "blues" tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: With all due respect to the Hon. Member, the Chair is listening very closely indeed and having even greater difficulty in determining the relevance. Can the

Hon. Member demonstrate how this question is relevant to the debate?

Mr. Anguish: Mr. Speaker, I can hardly see how you can interrupt me during a quotation in a debate in this House before I have finished the quote.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Will the Hon. Member please resume his seat. The Chair has an obligation in presiding over the House to call to the attention of Hon. Members the rule of relevance. It is perfectly in order for the Chair to call to the attention of Hon. Members the rule of relevance. It is perfectly in order for the Chair to do this and it has done for a number of Members this evening as the Chair does now for the Hon. Member for The Battlefords-Meadow Lake (Mr. Anguish). Will he please indicate the relevance of his quotation to the particular amendments before the House?

Mr. Anguish: Mr. Speaker, the relevance is that I am quoting from a book entitled "Facts for the Electors A Record of the Conservative Administration 1878-1882." Many of the facts in this booklet concern the program of the Conservative Party and its condemnation of the Liberal Opposition at that time. The facts that are contained in here had to do with the building of the rail system in Canada.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member is not discussing the two specific amendments before the House. If the Hon. Member persists in being irrelevant, the Chair will have no alternative but to recognize another Hon. Member.

Mr. Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. On behalf of the good electorate of The Battlefords-Meadow Lake, to which my riding is twinned, I would like to support very much your call for decorum, your call for order, your call for relevancy tonight. We feel in The Battlefords-Meadow Lake it is the least we can expect in this House.

An Hon. Member: You were speaking for the only Liberal in The Battlefords-Meadow Lake.

Mr. Benjamin: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair has invited the Hon. Member for The Battlefords-Meadow Lake to indicate the relevance of the matters he is quoting to Motions Nos. 55 and 56, which are currently before the House at report stage of this Bill. Will the Hon. Member please indicate the relevance to these amendments?

Mr. Anguish: Mr. Speaker, I hope this is not coming out of my ten minutes allotted time to debate this very important motion. But the relevancy and the bottom line of it is that