

sending money to other countries, and taking trips. He lived on a balanced budget.

Baskets are no good to this government, Mr. Speaker. It has been to the bottom of the basket years ago but it continues borrowing on the credit of the country in order to fill the baskets. It still has not learned how to cut down government expenditures, however, or how to start living within its means. It still has a \$13 billion deficit. People are getting fed up with this procedure and I do not blame them.

The bill before the House exemplifies the policy of this government. It is a warning to the people of Canada that the government still has not learned to live within its means, to cut down expenditures, to cut down on the civil service if necessary, and to stop spending money it does not have and as a result has to pay exorbitant interest rates in order to borrow.

Under the Prime Minister the Liberal ship is running loose in Canada today, without a rudder, without a compass, without an anchor. It does not know where it is going but it is operating on borrowed money. It expects the people of Canada to pay up and keep on smiling.

The people of Canada are getting fed up, Mr. Speaker. It is time the government woke up to the facts of life and realized that it cannot continue to run the country without a plan, without a compass, without an anchor, without a rudder, simply by borrowing money whenever it wants.

I do not think any member of the House should give the government permission to borrow \$14 billion. That would be criminal, particularly if it were granted on the basis of this bill. This government has not even promised to create any new production; it will simply carry on as before.

As I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, I certainly admire Steve Podborski. He certainly goes downhill fast but this country is going downhill even faster under the Liberal leadership. It is time we woke up. We cannot continue to live on borrowed money; it is time we paid our debts and began to live within our means. We cannot continue sending raw materials out of the country. We should create a climate that would encourage people to invest their money here in order to get industry moving.

There is no better incentive than to say to the people of Canada "You can make a dollar if you invest your money here." Instead of that we talk about Canadianization or nationalization. We say, "If you do well we will take it away from you. If you do well, as Alberta did, we will hound you until we drive you out of the country." That is what is happening with this government. It is enough to make one ashamed to be a Canadian citizen.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, this is the first opportunity I have had to speak in these exalted halls since the emergency debate on the economy as we were adjourning in December. I have been away, Mr. Speaker. The sight of this government and the way it squirms and deals with the country's problems is enough to drive anyone out of the

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country. I was delighted to go to countries like Kenya and see how they really function. This country is not functioning on the same level as Kenya unless we want to look at the wild game parks and then at the government benches.

Miss Bégin: What about South Africa?

Mr. Crosbie: I will come to South Africa and Brazil also. I will deal with the universe if the House will give me time. To come back to Canada, Madam Speaker—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I would prefer to be known as Mr. Speaker.

● (1540)

Mr. Crosbie: I hate to be called to order by the sexists opposite, Mr. Speaker. As I said before, I am not cognizant of what sex the Speaker is. It matters little to me. The Speaker is in the chair and I pay the Speaker all due deference whether the Speaker is a male, a female or whatever the Speaker might be!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Crosbie: However, we are dealing with this borrowing authority bill. I have been thrown off stride in the logical progression that I was going to take, Mr. Speaker. First, I want to thank my colleague, the hon. member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Andre), who handled matters so well for me while I was away for the last three or four weeks broadening my knowledge and experience.

Mr. Fox: It didn't take much time.

Mr. Crosbie: I also want to thank the hon. member for Mississauga South (Mr. Blenkarn), the critic for the finance portfolios who also helped out so admirably, who was so hard working, so intelligent and determined. It was a great solace to me knowing that I could leave and the world would not even notice I was gone. As a matter of fact, it was a great disappointment also. In any event, these two gentlemen did a fine job to fill in for me while I was gone, and I would like to thank them for that.

This bill was first introduced by the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen) on January 16 when he attempted to sneak this through the House as part of the income tax amending bill. The Minister of Finance, that shrewd old fox—we are all told how shrewd that old master of House procedure is—was caught by the tail—

Mr. Fox: Watch your language.

Mr. Crosbie: —and the big bushy tail was amputated when the hon. member for Calgary Centre drew this illegal procedure to the attention of the Speaker. You, Mr. Speaker, are now standing in for the Speaker. Therefore, that portion of the bill had to be changed. But in his remarks on this part of the bill, the Minister of Finance at page 6284 of *Hansard* said this:

—the budget strategy of gradually reducing the size of the budget.