

Income Tax

squandering without reason simply because he can always go back to the bottomless purse supplied by taxpayers. Would a head of a government be able to set up a group of employees comprising 200, more or less, if he had restricted funds? What has the establishment of the civilian group within the Solicitor General's department to do with the Solicitor General as minister responsible for that portfolio? Did he know such a group was being appointed, and did he sanction that action?

Since the RCMP director general of security and the branch within his department both report directly to the Prime Minister, is it fair to ask the Solicitor General to shoulder the responsibility for his position? Not only has the Prime Minister undermined the operations of the RCMP, but I think the authority of his Solicitor General has also been degraded and left in question. Certainly the funding of the Department of the Solicitor General is considerable, and it all falls on the Canadian taxpayer.

The RCMP Commissioner, who supposedly is responsible for the police force under his guidance, reports to the Solicitor General, and rightly so. Why then should the director general of security within that force be able to bypass the Commissioner, and thereby the Solicitor General, and communicate directly to the Prime Minister? What type of co-operation is this? It seems to be the same type of co-operation the government is giving to business and labour. It seems that most Canadians now know what the 1968 "just society" meant: a country dictated to and run into the ground by a one-man show.

There is no possible way that the RCMP Commissioner should be answerable for acts, illegal or otherwise, performed by members of his force who are under orders of a director general of security operating outside his jurisdiction. We will continue to have chaos within the RCMP and in this country until the Commissioner is the only person who can be held responsible—

Mr. Blais: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member for Stormont-Dundas (Mr. Lumley) indicated that the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers) was not at all addressing himself to the bill at issue, and evidently he is continuing to deal with matters which are completely irrelevant to this bill. He ought to be called to order.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak on the point of order. I think the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers) is right on, because this government has been using the police force to obtain files surreptitiously, and those files have been obtained illegally by the RCMP.

Mr. Lumley: What has that got to do with the tax bill?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): I suggest that the hon. member does stray off the path every once in a while, and I suggest that he come back to the terms of Bill C-11.

Mr. Blais: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a new point of order on the basis of what has been advanced by the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams). I might indicate to him that

[Mr. Towers.]

he ought to refer to Mr. Speaker's ruling of this day relating to unfounded allegations.

Mr. Woolliams: Are we going to be babies?

Mr. Towers: Mr. Speaker, I recognize that this is a sore spot with the government, but the only way to heal a sore spot is to have it cleansed, and that is exactly what I wish the Postmaster General (Mr. Blais) would recognize I am doing. Certainly there are enough problems in the Post Office—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. I suggest the hon. member get back to Bill C-11.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Towers: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

While on the subject of unnecessary spending and flagrant disregard by this government for taxpayers' dollars and their rights, I must impress upon this House the fact that the inquiries which are taking place throughout Canada cost taxpayers one way or another. On top of that—

An hon. Member: He is back on the topic now.

Mr. Towers:—the security of this country at the present time is in jeopardy. What guarantee do Canadians have that Michael Pitfield, for instance, is qualified to be chairman of the interdepartmental committee on security and intelligence? I presume he is being paid, and that his salary is paid by the taxpayers of Canada. Is he better suited to wield almost unlimited authority than a seasoned and capable officer with the RCMP or at least a person on the staff of the Department of the Solicitor General?

Where does political interference cease and common sense begin? What better way to destroy our wonderful country than to demoralize its national police force and ruin its economy, at the same time—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. I suggest the hon. member get back to the terms of Bill C-11.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Value for our money, sir.

An hon. Member: Who wrote that lousy speech anyhow?

Mr. Towers: We cannot separate ourselves from security and its cost to the Canadian taxpayer.

We have had four years of inflation in excess of 7 per cent. Many of us here can remember that we were told by economists that we could not live with inflation beyond 4 per cent. We have had an unemployment rate of over 7 per cent for the last three years, and unemployment is causing many problems for the RCMP. We must also consider that we have had four years of economic growth below 5 per cent, and three years of trade deficits of over \$4 billion. It will probably be \$5 billion this year. Somebody has to pay the piper, yet the government apparently is not prepared to wake up to exactly what is happening. I know the truth hurts. We have to recognize that in five years the federal deficit has increased each year. For