Established Programs Financing

Mr. McCain: Your record is contemptible at this time. They do not recognize the realities or the reason for this amendment.

Mr. Kristiansen: Look at the other amendments.

Mr. McCain: Until such time as the New Democratic Party is prepared to recognize the total picture rather than the narrow conceptual picture of colloquial politics, about which they have spoken in this House and have illustrated—

Mr. Kristiansen: Do you know how to read?

Mr. McCain: Those fellows must believe that everyone in the House is deaf. I did not have to read. All I had to do was to listen and to isolate the colloquialism of the last two speakers. They do not give two hoots about Canada.

Ms. Jewett: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Could I bring the Hon. Member to order? He is speaking on Motion No. 3, not Motion No. 4. Motion No. 3 was the one which blames the federal Government for imposing six and five on these transfers and suggested going back to the 11 per cent at which they should have been. That concerned Motion No. 3 and is what the Hon. Member is addressing. It was my motion that, unfortunately, was declared out of order.

He is wrong to be speaking totally to Motion No. 3, which is the one I wanted to have discussed in the House. If he had attended the committee he would have known that we are on record as opposing the imposition of six and five on postsecondary educational transfers.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert): I will draw the remarks of the Hon. Member to the attention of the Hon. Member for Carleton-Charlotte (Mr. McCain) and ask him to address his remarks of the last few minutes to Motion No. 4.

Mr. McCain: Mr. Speaker, I was asked if I could read. May I just read the motion to you. It reads:

Any such cash contribution for hospital insurance and medical care programs and post-secondary education program shall be expended by the province for the purposes of those programs only.

Have I addressed any other subject than these programs? I leave it to you to rule on, Mr. Speaker. While I discussed the source of those moneys and the obligation of the federal Government in respect of them, as well as the distortion of the facts by the members of the NDP, the Hon. Member did debate that subject somewhat and I do not begrudge her that opportunity. It is one of the privileges of the House which she should exercise.

On the other hand, I believe there should be somewhat more resemblance to the truth and the basic problem as it exists in Canada. Let us not address this on a carte blanche basis, speaking against every Premier in Canada for not spending enough money on these programs. The fact is that since they do not have the money, they cannot spend what they do not have

Ms. Jewett: They do not spend what they get from us.

Mr. Epp: They do, Mr. Justice Hall said they did.

Mr. McCain: Mr. Speaker, I have heard this accusation from Members on my left and Members on your right. Not one speaker has documented the fact that the Province of New Brunswick has not spent all of its grants or the equivalent of those grants for the purposes for which the money was granted. While slimy accusations have been made against the Premiers of Canada, not one Member has documented any facts to show that a province in Canada has misspent or misappropriated the money. Mr. Justice Hall supported the provinces in spite of all the accusations of those who would say otherwise.

When one gets one's tail caught in a trap one screams, and that is why they are screaming.

Ms. Jewett: You should have listened to the committee.

Mr. Kristiansen: You are deaf and blind.

Mr. McCain: I attend the committee as regularly as the screaming Member on my left attends the Fisheries Committee. We each have our interests and responsibilities. When she begins to attend the Fisheries Committee, the Agricultural Committee or the Forestry Committee, then I will start to attend the committee to which she refers, that is, if my Party has room for me on that committee. However, in view of the expertise from our Party that is already on that committee, I recognize that I am not needed in that sphere. We all have our own interests, and I suggest that she attend to hers. I will look after my constituency and I will try to look after the integrity of the provinces of Canada.

I want to deflect the accusations which have been made against those provinces and which have been alleged without any foundation by any Minister or backbencher since the subject matter has come before us.

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg-Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, let me first deal with the remarks made by the Hon. Member for Carleton-Charlotte (Mr. McCain). I recall that he began his speech by admonishing the House that we ought not be too political in our remarks. He charged us with overexerting, I believe he said, politics in our analysis. After making that self-righteous comment, he went on to be obviously political in his very selective interpretation of what our criticism of this Bill has been.

As the Hon. Member for New Westminster-Coquitlam (Ms. Jewett) pointed out, we are debating Motion No. 4, which admittedly implies a criticism of some provincial governments and is symbolic of our desire that the money transferred from the federal Government to provincial governments for the purposes of education should be spent on education. We make no apologies for that. If that provokes a defensive attitude toward the provinces on the part of that Hon. Member or any other Member, so be it.

However, to be fair, the Hon. Member neglected to say that we had another amendment which, had it been ruled in order and debated, would have acknowledged that we also view the