

S. O. 21

you were the chief executive officer of a company and you consistently put people in senior positions who were there not to benefit the company, not to assist the taxpayers, not to help ordinary people in getting by in their day-to-day lives but to rip off the system, then should you not accept responsibility for that? In the case of the Hon. Member for York Simcoe it was not the Opposition that demanded that he be thrown out of the Conservative caucus but the Quebec caucus of the Conservative Party. Yet the Prime Minister ignored that recommendation, and is the Government, in claiming to be introducing conflict of interest guidelines yet keeping that Member as part of the team, not making a mockery of the whole notion of conflict of interest?

Mr. Ricard: Sit down. What about Bryce Mackasey?

Ms. Copps: The Hon. Member asks about Bryce Mackasey. Bryce Mackasey was called before a bar of the House and himself asked to be submitted to that procedure. That was exactly the process we suggested in the case of the Member for York Simcoe. If the Government believes that it can deal with the issue by introducing new conflict of interest guidelines that have more loopholes than you can drive a Mack truck through, then I think the Government is underestimating the intelligence of the Canadian people. You can build all the laws in the world but it does not stop individual Members from exercising judgment, Madam Speaker. When you have a Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) and a Prime Minister sitting silent this week while the Minister for International Trade (Mr. Crosbie) is to receive a \$10,000 cheque from an organization which believes in apartheid, is against bilingualism, against affirmative action and does not believe in a minimum wage, when the \$10,000 cheque will be used for his own re-election—

Mrs. Sparrow: That is not what he said.

Ms. Copps: —that shows the kind of bad judgment that no conflict of interest guideline or legislation will cover. It is bad judgment on the part of the Member and on the part of the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister in permitting that Member to consider accepting a cheque from the National Citizens Coalition.

[*Translation*]

Madam Speaker, the National Citizens' Coalition is against bilingualism. In spite of that, a Minister of the Crown, probably with the blessing of the Secretary of State who said nothing and did nothing, will accept a \$10,000 cheque from an organization which is against bilingualism in Canada. Is that the policy of the Conservative Party? The said Minister clearly indicated in the House that he was going to collect and use for re-election or charitable purposes \$10,000 from this national group which is against bilingualism and will not hear of implementing sanctions against South Africa, while fully supporting the apartheid system in that country. That is the

kind of judgment we can expect from such a Minister! I should like to tell the Hon. Member for Lac-Saint-Jean (Mr. Bouchard) that it is not a bill we are dealing with in the House which will change the judgment of the Prime Minister who was responsible for appointing this Minister in the first place and who now refuses to intervene to stop him and let him know that it would be wrong and against our Standing Orders for him to collect a \$10,000 award from an organization which is against bilingualism in Canada.

An Hon. Member: An extreme right group!

Ms. Copps: When we raised this issue in the House yesterday, there was no response from the Government. The Prime Minister who in 1985 stated that he would show leadership in the development of conflict of interest guidelines finally delegated this responsibility to the Deputy Prime Minister and others, preferring to wash his hands of the whole mess, something Canadians just will not accept.

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Pursuant to order made Wednesday, August 31, 1988, debate is now completed. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, Bill read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): It being eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 19(4) the House will now proceed to Statements by Members pursuant to Standing Order 21.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 21

[*English*]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

MEARES ISLAND—CALL FOR HALT TO LOGGING

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, Ontario's Minister of the Environment, Jim Bradley, announced that he is establishing a round table on the environment and economy as recommended by the National Task Force on the Environment and the Economy. For this we congratulate Mr. Bradley. It is interesting to note that Adam Zimmerman, chairman of Noranda and a former member of that task force, is quoted as saying:

The whole case has been thoroughly made. My view is that the task force report really said pretty well everything and now the thing is really to pursue it, do something, and not sit around studying it.

We applaud Mr. Zimmerman's words. As the Chief Executive Officer, he is ultimately responsible for MacMillan-Bloedel in British Columbia, a forest company not noted for its careful treatment of the environment and presently engaged in a battle to clearcut the virgin rain forest of Meares Island.