Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act

rights, the Liberal Party of Canada, about the fact that we are slowing down the rate of transfers to the provinces. Presumably—

• (1740)

Mr. Rossi: What was that you said?

Mr. Crosbie: When the Hon. Member from la grosse bouche goes back to his district in the Province of Quebec, will he advocate to them that we remove jurisdiction for health from the province or that we remove jurisdiction for education from the province? No, la grosse bouche will not open his grosse bouche when he gets back to Quebec.

Mr. Rossi: En français.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): If you had only done that during the leadership, you would be Prime Minister.

Mr. Crosbie: Had I shown this facility-

Mr. Rossi: You would be the Leader, John.

Mr. Crosbie: I am only getting started. I am going to be here for a long time yet. Laurier had the 20th Century. I have the 21st.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Crosbie: Hon. gentlemen opposite do not realize that 23 per cent of the money which the Government of Canada is spending this year is going to pay interest on the Liberal debt. That 23 per cent is gone.

Some Hon. Members: Shame, shame!

Mr. Crosbie: We cannot use it to improve health services, education or roads.

Mr. Nunziata: What about bank bail-outs?

Mr. Rossi: Are you talking about the interest for Stevens?

Mr. Crosbie: What about an operation on the honourable tongues opposite? In Newfoundland we have a dish called cod tongue. There are the cods and there are the tongues; they are both opposite. They have everything in the Liberal caucus. As I said, 23 per cent of all the money we spend this year goes in interest on the Liberal debt. That is why we had to propose this legislation to the House. That is why the House should pass it. That is why those hon. gentlemen should vote for it. They caused it. They left us in a position where 23 per cent of the \$110 billion we are spending this year is on interest to bond holders, rather than being in a position to use it to improve educational facilities, hospital facilities, and other services in the country. They have done that dirty work, and they should now vote to pay for the dirty work.

Mr. Rossi: We finally got you going, John.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some Hon. Members: More, more!

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Hon. Minister is doing so much damage to his cause, his Party and his Government that the Official Oposition would gladly give unanimous consent to allow him to speak until six o'clock.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Crosbie: Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there in fact unanimous consent to allow the Minister to continue for a minute?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there unanimous consent to allow the Minister to contine for five more minutes?

An Hon. Member: For 15 minutes.

Mr. Rossi: Your friends are on this side, John.

Mr. Crosbie: I have consent to carry on.

Mr. Nunziata: Let the clown carry on.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well, the Hon. Minister of Justice has unanimous consent to continue for a few minutes.

Mr. Crosbie: I will restrict myself to two or three minutes, Mr. Speaker. It is noticeable that the unofficial Opposition opposite, the New Democratic Party, has not said much this afternoon. That is because its chain has not yet been jerked by Shirley Carr. She has not indicated to the members of that Party what position they should take in this matter. I was down in Windsor a week ago and I told them the story of Bob White and the three dwarfs—the Hon. Members from Windsor, the Hon. House Leader of the Liberal Party—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the Hon. Minister, but I doubt if this is relevant to Bill C-96.

Mr. Crosbie: Mr. Speaker, I will leave the subject of Bob White and the three dwarfs—the Hon. Members from Windsor who are up every day here and the other distaff Member, the House Leader of the Official Opposition. I will leave that and simply say that since the CLC has not instructed New Democratic Members of Parliament on what position to take on this matter, they have had precious little to say. We hope that the message will get through to them by tomorrow and that they will be able to participate in the debate.

I do not know who has pulled your chain, Herb, but you are looking as though you are suffering a lot of pain at the moment. I believe the Hon. House Leader regrets the fact that I was given the chance to introduce Bob White and the three dwarfs to the House. I do not want to take unfair advantage of the hon. gentleman because I do not think he can survive to six o'clock if I continue. I thank the House for the three extra