

Time Allocation

dures, to frustrate the proper courtesies of introducing a Bill, and why they are standing in the way of over 300,000 jobs being created in this country.

An Hon. Member: We are not standing in the way.

Mr. Axworthy: That is important, Mr. Speaker. They will have to answer for that some day. They are going to answer for their hypocrisy, their contradictions, their flip-flopping and their jumping around.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Axworthy: That Party will have to answer for the fact that it does do not believe—

Mr. Taylor: You are a snake.

Mr. Axworthy: It does not believe in creating jobs in this country. Otherwise those Hon. Members would be standing in their places and saying to the Minister of Transport of the Government, "Get on with the job and get the Bill passed."

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Axworthy: Let me also point out, Mr. Speaker, that during the course of this debate, this Government has at all times responded with the utmost flexibility, responsiveness and willingness—

Some Hon. Members: Oh!

Mr. Taylor: Snake!

Mr. Axworthy: —to accept amendments and changes to alter proposals. Some 20 amendments were accepted from the opposition during committee stage alone. We accepted amendments during report stage. We did that on the grounds that we want to put in place—

Mr. Taylor: Tell it to Moscow. Canadians do not want to hear your communistic talk.

Mr. Axworthy: —a statute which will provide a good and effective transportation system for western Canada.

Some Hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Axworthy: Mr. Speaker, I believe that we demonstrated our good faith and our willingness to act in a spirit of co-operation. I believe we have shown that we came to this House willing to construct in a positive way the kind of legislation which will allow the western rail to begin to grow and expand. All we ask for, Mr. Speaker, is one small iota of willingness from the other side to at least allow the proper parliamentary procedures to continue. But all we have faced from the time we brought that report in the House was various acts of filibuster, frustration and obstruction to the parliamentary procedure. We were faced with a form of parliamentary guerrilla warfare, of parliamentary blackmail. That is the

reason, Mr. Speaker, we had to bring in time allocation. We cannot allow a Bill which is so important to the economy of this country—

Mr. Taylor: You cannot allow it? That is more Communism.

Mr. Axworthy: —which is so important to the farmers of western Canada to move their grain and products to market, and which is so important to the men and women across this country who want to go to work—

Mr. Taylor: More Communism.

Mr. Axworthy: —which is important to the steel industry in Trenton, Nova Scotia, and to the steel industry in Hamilton and to the people who make locomotives in London, and which, above all, is most important to the farmers, suppliers and producers in western Canada who know full well that within a year or two, unless that capacity is in place, their grain cannot move to market and we will not be able to sell our produce to a world which is willing to pay the price. That is the point of the motion we have brought forward today, Mr. Speaker. We must get on with the proper business of the House and allow Parliament to decide on an issue which carries with it much of the future growth of western Canada, and with it the future economic growth of the entire country.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1520)

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, this is indeed a very sad day for Parliament.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Mazankowski: The actions of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Axworthy) today only prove that there is no room for reasonableness, constructive criticism and the offering of positive alternatives. This House has been treated to the most extreme exercise in trickery. What is in essence happening here is that the elected representatives of western Canada are being ignored, they are being denied the opportunity to have their views debated and put forward on a very major issue. What this amounts to is an exercise in taxation without representation.

I really regret what the Minister has done today. The position of this Party has been one of constructive criticism. We have offered alternatives, tried to improve the Bill and seek out reasonable solutions. But the Minister is so skittish about his own Bill that he has to move closure. He will not allow the alternatives to be debated. The interpretation in western Canada can only be that this Government is engaging in another attack upon the West. First of all, this Government does not have a mandate to dismantle the Crow take system. It was not an election issue. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said time and time again that the Government would not proceed on any measure to dismantle the Crow unless there was a consensus in western Canada. I humbly submit to you,