

the window because the business of business is to make money. My former leader said this repeatedly.

The business of government is to look after the people at large. The NDP made a serious mistake in giving away its ability to use that domed stadium as a public service policy instrument. If journalists ever take a close look at that deal they will find it is the biggest sham since this country's railway was built.

**Mr. David Barrett (Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca):** Madam Speaker, listening to this debate on federal legislation and hearing my colleagues in the Liberal Party attempting to rewrite history is more than I can stomach.

It is one thing to play a little politics in this House. It has been known to happen. It is another thing to play a little partisan politics. That is known to have happened. But to play fast and loose with the facts is more than I can handle on an empty stomach on this occasion.

**An hon. member:** Your stomach is never empty.

**Mr. Barrett:** It certainly is after I have listened to you people. It is a threat to my digestive system and future meals.

It was a Tory government under Premier Davis that launched the stadium. It was an absolutely dumb deal, d-u-m-b. The financing from the very beginning was a scam by the private sector that walked away with an incredible deal right from the start. We agree on that. It was the Conservatives who got scammed in the first place. Shame on them.

Far be it for me to raise that on this nice quiet morning. After they made a dumb deal, and on a stomach emptied by the last speech, it was compounded by the Liberals who did not tell the truth about their financial situation going into the election in Ontario.

My only complaint is that Bob Rae was too charitable being the Christian that he is. He should have called in the accountants to check the books. He would have discovered that the people of Ontario had been lied to about the deficit and about the budget overruns and about what was happening with the stadium.

### *Government Orders*

Who am I to raise all of this publicly? It is not my intention to embarrass—

**Mr. Mills:** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

**Mr. Barrett:** Oh, so now the member has a point of order.

**Mr. Mills:** Madam Speaker, I do not ever want to claim that I have the parliamentary expertise of the hon. member from Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca, but I am not sure that one can call people liars. I think we better check that.

**Madam Deputy Speaker:** The Chair has been wondering for the last little while about the relevancy of debate at this time in considering the bill. At first it started very innocently. I see the hon. member for York South—Weston not even looking at me. I would let it go, but I think we should be careful and keep it as much as possible relevant to the bill which is in front of the House. Because there was a lot of noise around me I could not hear the hon. member for Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca. If he did say things that were unparliamentary, I am sure he will do the honourable thing.

**Mr. Barrett:** Madam Speaker, I did not name a person. I said the government lied and political parties lied. That is purely parliamentary. If I name a specific person, that is unparliamentary.

If my colleague wants a lesson on procedure for free, I will give him 15 minutes outside. One can say that a government lied and a political party lied.

Madam Speaker, since you have suggested relevance, I will be relevant. I will confine my remarks to what the Liberal members were allowed to say without any interruption. Far be it for me to suggest that the Liberal members strayed, but if that is what they suggested they were doing, that is what I am allowed to do too.

Let me finish my remarks by suggesting that had the Government of Ontario not unloaded the SkyDome, the taxpayers, as they might be under this bill, forced to pay tens to hundreds of millions of dollars in interest charges right out of the pockets of the taxpayers of Ontario. At least they have stopped the haemorrhaging.

Why did the Liberal government not tell the truth about the deal? Why are the Liberals trying to rewrite history in this Chamber? Why do they not go down to Queen's Park and make the same speeches? They would