

I hope there will be no more talk about the fact that unless the new government can work out a whole new deal on Loto, there will be no money for an art gallery in Vancouver for the province of British Columbia. I am sure hon. members, knowing the situation, would not want that response. I ask the indulgence of hon. members to plead my case when the appropriate time comes on Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Ursula Appolloni (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser) had all my sympathy until he implied that only western Canada or British Columbia were being victimized by this program. I want to tell him right now very, very strongly—as strongly as I can—that such is not the case. Indeed the hon. member, and any one of his ilk, will do no justice to the people of Canada by attempting to put one province of Canada against the rest of Canada.

In his remarks on Friday the hon. member for Vancouver South seemed to suggest that only he and members of his party are interested in this problem. Nothing could be further from the truth. Indeed, if the former Conservative government had been more concerned with this matter, this debate would not even have been necessary. In fact it was for just such worthy projects as the Vancouver art gallery—and I admit that it is a very worthy project—that the federal government intended to use Loto Canada revenues. Of course, that was before the former Conservative government made its unfortunate decision to throw away Loto Canada, thus depriving both the sports and cultural community of a considerably large amount of available funds.

● (2210)

Had the previous Conservative government not made its sweetheart deal with the provinces—

Mr. Fraser: That is a ridiculous, cheap answer.

Mrs. Appolloni: If the hon. member wants to listen he has to do me the courtesy of keeping quiet.

Mr. Fraser: I have listened to all I want to hear.

Mrs. Appolloni: It is estimated that 30 per cent of the total net revenues from Loto Canada would have been allocated to arts and culture on an annual basis. At that time Loto Canada estimated this amount at \$30 million. Even if we take a more conservative, perish the word, figure, forecasting increased competition in the lottery field, the yield to arts and culture would still be estimated at being no less than \$19.5 million per year.

Under the agreement negotiated by the previous Conservative government only \$12 million would have been allocated to arts and culture; that is much less money to undertake the projects which both the arts community and the federal government want to see undertaken.

On Friday the hon. member for Vancouver South raised the spectre of blackmail. This is most emphatically not the case.

Mr. Fraser: It's what they are saying back home, lady.

Adjournment Debate

Mrs. Appolloni: If the hon. member cannot control himself I do not think he wants information, he just wants to make some more brownie points. It is emphatically not a question of blackmail, but of a government attempting to do whatever can be done to overcome the difficulties inherited from its immediate predecessor.

We are approaching the issue of arts and culture funding, including the Vancouver art gallery project, with the highest sense of concern and, indeed, urgency. I must emphasize that there are many projects from all across the entire country well worthy of government support. The government must do its best to fund these worth-while projects within the very limited amounts of money available for this purpose. Due largely to the previous Conservative government, there is unfortunately very much less money available for this purpose than we would have wished.

INDUSTRY—PROPOSAL FOR INSTALLATION OF SYNCROLIFT IN ST. JOHN'S DOCKYARD

Hon. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I rise in connection with a question I asked the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gray) last Thursday about the proposal for the installation of a syncrolift at St. John's dockyard in St. John's. I never expected I would have to mention this project again in this House, but it has to be mentioned because it appears that someone on the other side wants to sabotage this economic development project that is scheduled to go ahead in my district of St. John's West, or was scheduled to go ahead until this government returned to power last February 18.

Put very shortly, there was a dockyard built in St. John's, Newfoundland, back in the 1920s by the government of Newfoundland, which had very little money and very little prospect, as an act of faith in the marine industry in Newfoundland. That dockyard is still basically the dockyard that is there today in Newfoundland. It was taken over by the Government of Canada in 1949. The Government of Canada gave it to CN to operate and it has been operating the dockyard ever since.

It has one graving dock. That graving dock can take three or four ships, but once those ships are on the dock it can take no more until they are repaired and discharged. That is the nature of a graving dock. The yard in the last couple of years has had the opportunity of greatly increasing its business from foreign fishing fleets, particularly the fishing fleet of the U.S.S.R. To do that business it needs a syncrolift. A syncrolift is simply a mechanical device to lift ships out of the water and put them down in a berth on dry land. This would be a three-berth syncrolift so they could do three vessels of up to 3,600 tons in each one of those berths using the syncrolift, while other vessels were being done in the drydock.

The dockyard was losing money until several years ago. It is now making money, and with the traffic that is offering now, with the syncrolift it could be a real winner. It would increase employment from 330 men and women, now employed, by