

ance in developing their own country, more assistance for small business, for co-operatives, worker co-ops, old people and farmers. They want to create jobs from the bottom up, yet this Minister comes in the House with a Bill which will open us up to much greater corporate concentration in fewer and fewer hands. That is the wrong way to go. The Minister said we are open for business. This Bill is not an open for business Bill, it is a sell out Canada Bill. We are selling out Canada to big corporate and foreign interests rather than providing Canadians with the tools to take over their own country's economy, an economy which is more self-reliant and which provides more and more jobs at the local level for the betterment of Canada.

I will take my seat after one last appeal to my friends in the Conservative Party to show a little bit of courage and conviction. Do not let the Minister and the Prime Minister push you around. This Prime Minister is becoming every day more and more like the former Prime Minister. There is no difference between his attitude towards the Parliament of Canada and the attitude of Pierre Trudeau. When the Conservatives were in opposition they found that to be a disgusting thing and said it would never happen to them. But this Prime Minister is doing exactly the same thing. For me, an even bigger disappointment is that the members of his Party are afraid to stand up to him. They are afraid to say, let's democratize this place and show more respect for Parliament and the Canadian people. Is it any wonder that more and more people see the Prime Minister as a phoney and insensitive person who is concentrating more and more power in his own hands? The people of this country are becoming more and more cynical about politicians in general. We can change that, but those people in the Conservative Party can only do it by getting up and showing us that they have some courage. They should show us that they respect the traditions of the Conservative Party, which historically has been a nationalist Party, one which believed in some public intervention in order to make this country much stronger.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Questions or comments?

Mr. Gormley: Mr. Speaker, I have a few comments in light of my friend's speech. He mentioned me several times and I appreciate that. I know that all of us from Saskatchewan think of ourselves as progressive, and I would like to thank him for his intervention. In the one year I have been in Parliament it has been interesting to listen to him, and I would like to compliment him on his remarks today. However, if you spend too much time reacting to what a lot of NDP Members say, you only dignify their comments and encourage them in their tilting at windmills.

I want to address a few comments to a specific matter relating to the CDC. Mention has been made this morning of Canterra Energy. The Hon. Member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom) will know that this company is an integral player in the oil and gas business in my constituency, it has excelled in its field. However, I have some difficulty with the Hon. Member's point that maintaining government ownership

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or control of that company will benefit the people of Canada. Recently the company issued some of its own shares but, if I am not mistaken, the CDC still controls about 90 per cent of the company. This company is doing some leading work in the heavy oil end of the business in my constituency, so would it not be a better idea to let the people of Canada buy shares in this company and directly participate in its success? It strikes me as odd that the Hon. Member wants the Government to hang on to this company and not let the people of Saskatchewan share in the ownership and control of a company which many of them admire.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, I made it very clear in my remarks that I thought the people of this country wanted to diversify ownership. They want more control at the local level. I mentioned the importance of more self-direction and self-reliance, grassroots economics, in the creation of jobs. My complaint about this Bill is that it goes in exactly the opposite direction. It calls for greater corporate concentration. The present legislation requires that the Government maintain a minimum of 10 per cent equity. My God, that is not a stranglehold. It is only 10 per cent. But the Government and the Minister are allowing that to be reduced to zero. I do not see this as a black and white issue, although the Hon. Member seems to. All I am saying is that a 10 per cent equity participation by the Government is not very much. Some 90 per cent of the company would still be held in private hands. My beef, I suppose, is that the Government is now allowing this to be reduced to zero. I think that is absolutely wrong. We want to develop a country with equality between regions. We want fair development of small business. Therefore, the Government must have its foot in the door. It must have some say over the public policy of this institution. The problem my friend raises will become even more of a problem if the Government has no say whatsoever over the direction of the CDC. If it is totally in the hands of a small corporate elite, many of them foreigners, then it will have a lot more problems in developing projects such as the one he refers to than it would have if the Government had at least a 10 per cent equity.

Mr. Cassidy: Mr. Speaker, I would like my friend to tell us whether he believes the Government's decision to sell this final 10 per cent it holds in the CDC is for economic reasons or would he say it was for ideological reasons?

Mr. Nystrom: Perhaps the Hon. Member was not here earlier when I said that the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion is a very dogmatic person when it comes to ideology. He is a small "c" conservative, and the reason this Bill is before Parliament is to push his small "c" ideology on the people of Canada.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): I am very sorry to interrupt the Hon. Member, but it being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this afternoon.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.