

backs by this Government in an almost obscene effort to try to buy the Canadian taxpayer and voter with his own money. This is happening at a rate which is shocking to the sensibilities of every taxpayer and every businessman in this country.

● (1530)

It amazes me, Mr. Speaker, to listen to the leadership candidates for the Party which is now the Government of Canada talking about a \$30 billion deficit as if it were something Canadians should expect; that is the way you run a country. Well, the way you run a country is to try to bring the expenses of the nation in line with the taxes being paid by the people of the nation. You cannot keep piling on the shoulders of ordinary Canadians, many of them too young even to understand what is happening to them, a debt which is growing at a rate almost unparalleled in the history of any developed nation in the world. We have seen this nation go from a people who were frugal in their appreciation of how their tax dollars should be spent and were respectful of Members of Parliament who had some appreciation of the fact that the tax dollars paid into the Treasury of Canada were tax dollars which Canadian citizens expect Members of Parliament to guard and spend wisely and frugally, to a Government which has become representative of the free-spending drunken sailors who do not really care where the money comes from and who just throw it around at an unprecedented rate, mainly at their friends, no one else but their friends.

Many years ago the then Member for Prince Albert, the Right Hon. John Diefenbaker, used to say, in the early era of the present Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), that the "Just Society" was just for Grits. All you have to do is to look at the catalogue of appointees to the various boards and commissions to recognize the accuracy of that remark. It is nothing short of a total scandal, almost a total dictatorship, when you have a Government which uses the devices of Parliament to gag Members of Parliament from legitimate debate in relation to the moneys being borrowed to finance the over-expenditure on Government services; to finance the waste and extravagance of a Government, which has been too long in office and has not respect for the taxpayers of this country or for anyone but itself and its friends; and to see to it that its friends are looked after over and over and over again.

If you are a good friend, you go from one job to another job to another job to another job. There are always good jobs for Grits. We have, for instance, the present Chairman of the Canadian Transport Commission. Since he became a Liberal in 1968 he has been able to bounce from one position to the next position to the next position to the next position. He even got an appointment just short of his birthday, which would have prevented him from taking the position he presently holds. We have another gentleman from Nova Scotia who has gone from one appointment to the next appointment to the next appointment. I do not know whether there are fewer Grits in the country; I think there are—

Mr. Turner: You want to go to the Senate, Bob?

Borrowing Authority Act

Mr. Coates:—but what I would say, from what I can see, is that they seem to be running out of Liberals whom they want to appoint because they are shifting present Liberal appointees from one position to the next position to the next position. You would think that when you shuffle the deck you would be able to find some new people.

My friend, the Hon. Member for London East (Mr. Turner), just now asked me if I wanted to go to the Senate. I want to go to the Senate with him. I think the two of us should go to the Senate. However, Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the amount of borrowing. I would think that Canadians who look at what they are paying in taxes now and look at the horrendous amount in tax dollars which go to service the debt we now have, must be really alarmed as they listen to Liberal leadership candidates who seem to feel that the deficit is one of the minor problems facing the country. They must be alarmed when they look at the Budget, which was brought down a month and a half ago which told us one story, and then, within a month and a half, see unemployment figures escalating, inflation escalating and an attack on our dollar. How much can you believe these people? Who can you believe over there? Can you believe anyone?

You certainly have to come to the conclusion that what they told us a month or so ago is certainly not the reality today. When we compare ourselves with the U.S., with a country as rich in resources as Canada, a country as rich in potential entrepreneurship as we have in Canada, why are we in such a terrible economic mess as compared even with the U.S., and certainly much more so with other countries in the world?

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that I support the amendment proposed by the Hon. Member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling) and I regret very much that the Government has taken the decision to impose closure on this particular piece of legislation.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pierre Gimaiel (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Mines)): Mr. Speaker, if we consider the amendment proposed by the Member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling) concerning the Government's borrowing authority, and if we consider more specifically the question being asked by the Hon. Member, namely, why the Government is asking for an extra borrowing authority, in other words, an amount in addition to the sums of money required until the end of the fiscal year, clearly, the Government of Canada, owing to the vast number of responsibilities that have been vested in the Government over the past few decades by successive governments, I should say by successive Parliaments which passed a host of bills, a process to which Members of the party in power or the Parties in power in Parliament at the time and Members of the Opposition have contributed, clearly the Government's role, which is daily becoming increasingly important in the lives of Canadians, demands that this Government meet some very impressive obligations.