

With respect to the complaints about VIA Rail the Government keeps saying: "There are parts of the country which cannot get along without transportation services and we are aware of that". The way the Government has been treating rural Canada and the regions of this country indicate that it does not understand anything about it. The Government's main interest is in the bottom line. Its aim is to cut the bottom line, forget about rural Canada and bring everybody into the cities. What will the Government do when it brings all these people into the cities? The Minister responsible for privatization said very clearly at the legislative committee that the federal Government has no right to be interfering in infrastructure services such as water and sewers for municipalities. He said that that is a provincial responsibility.

If we look at the United States today we see that the Americans have been living off their capital instead of their income. What has been the result? What has been the result of not looking after their cities? The result has been that major cities such as Detroit, Chicago, New York and so on have tremendous problems in terms of water and sewage services—all types of services for their municipalities. Their cities will cost multibillion dollars to repair because they have been let go. The states cannot afford it. Municipal Governments cannot afford it any more. National Governments are the ones which can tax almost anything to get these jobs done, pay grants and part of its share to the municipalities.

When we look at this Government today we see that, indeed, it has as a federal Government taxed nearly everything in Canada. That is probably the only role in which it has been doing well. It will continue to tax nearly everything in the country—every thing and everybody. Yet the Government says: "We are not going to touch the municipal services. They are not our responsibility". They are services that affect every Canadian in everyday life. They touch every Canadian's life. It is our responsibility as well as the provinces, the many municipalities and the people in the back streets, the concessions, roads and the main streets of Canada to ensure that our facilities are kept clean and up to date.

How can we talk in the House about environment being such a fantastically important issue today and do

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our job with the environment if we are going to forget the most important thing of all? I refer to the first-class health conditions of every Canadian citizen. Of course, if there is not good water and sewage systems, then there is not good community health conditions. There is no way that we should be trying to sneak away from that.

There are other matters which I wish to mention. One is deregulation. I spoke several times on the deregulation Bill in this House when it was presented by the Government. The Government is now in trouble with it. It brought in deregulation at a time when the United States was getting out of it. I was very interested in going home on the weekend one week ago. I picked up the local *Pembroke Observer* and saw an editorial which rather warmed my heart. It is dated June 10 and the headline reads: "Air Deregulation Disaster, O'Brien Says". The article states:

Deregulation of the airline industry has had a major negative impact on small carriers, says Del O'Brien.

The President of Pem-Air, a local airline, he was a member of a group that spoke strongly against deregulation when the federal Government announced it would bring in the necessary legislation.

In a speech to the Pembroke Kiwanis Club this week Mr. O'Brien said deregulation has led to a monopoly position for two major carriers and to poorer service for Canadians.

Prior to deregulation major airlines handled about 76 per cent of the traffic, now two carriers control 96 per cent.

We told the Government that that is what would happen under that deregulation Bill on transportation.

Who is Del O'Brien who spoke to the Kiwanis Club in Pembroke on the deregulation of the air industry? Del O'Brien is the Conservative candidate who ran against me in 1968. At that time he was president of the Young Progressive Conservatives in Canada. He ran against me in 1974. He came to Ottawa and advised the Government what it should be doing, that it should not be going into deregulation. The Government ignored his representations as a good Conservative candidate. He was a good Conservative candidate to run against. The Government is not even listening to its own people. It goes ahead in its bull-headed way and brings something in anyway. We can see where the private, small entrepreneur trying to run an airline in the country is really behind the eight ball.

The result of this monopoly is that all regular fairs are almost exactly the same, there is only one reservation system, controlled by the big