

Time Allocation

backing the Bishops and their fine paper. The implication they are trying to leave with the Canadian people is that "We, the NDP, back the Bishops", therefore everyone else, including the Government, should. But the Bishops are against abortion. What is the NDP stand on abortion? They want abortion on demand.

Mr. Deans: What position does the Tory Party take on abortion?

Mr. Thacker: I am talking about the NDP.

Mr. Deans: I know you are. What position does the Tory Party take on abortion?

Mr. Thacker: Mr. Speaker, they get riled when they get to these points they cannot handle.

Mr. Deans: Answer the question. What position does the Tory Party take?

Mr. Taylor: Why did you kick Borowski out, then?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order. The Hon. Member for Lethbridge-Foothills (Mr. Thacker) has the floor.

Mr. Deans: Well, why doesn't he stick to the Bill?

Mr. Thacker: They are really annoyed about that because they want the Government to accept the Bishops' position on nationalizing industry but not on abortion.

Mr. Deans: What about the Conservatives?

Mr. Thacker: Let me tell them what their policy is: save the seals and kill the babies. That is the NDP policy.

Mr. Deans: You cannot find out where the Tories are because they do not know.

Mr. Thacker: Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the NDP stood up today and sanctimoniously, with heartfelt words, said: "Why don't you listen to ordinary Canadians? Let us follow them." I agree. What is their position on capital punishment? More than 80 per cent of ordinary Canadians want justice on capital punishment.

Mr. Deans: What is Joe Clark's position on capital punishment?

Mr. Thacker: We are talking about Party positions. Our Party agrees that individuals can take their own position, but the NDP does not.

Mr. Deans: There are 101 positions in the Tory Party, all of them at the feet of the Liberals.

Mr. Thacker: We all have the right to have our own positions. The NDP really see themselves as social engineers; they want to remake mankind in the image of NDP policy. They do not permit dissent.

Mr. Beatty: They purged Svend Robinson for speaking out. If you have a mind of your own, you get purged.

Mr. Deans: You want to get into that one, too?

Mr. Thacker: The great NDP Party, Mr. Speaker, and more so now the Liberal Party because Liberal backbenchers have failed to honour their commitment to their constituents, are letting the Cabinet get away with murder. So we see in this social engineering type of Government the remaking of mankind. We have a law passed in Parliament, a commitment to go metric, but it will be voluntary. Then the executive Cabinet, because it has to remake mankind, has to impose that law, just as with this Bill before us. My time has expired, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): The Hon. Member for Etobicoke North (Mr. MacLaren).

Mr. Beatty: We want Deans.

Mr. Roy MacLaren (Etobicoke North): Mr. Speaker, the motion before us is to place a limit on the length of this debate. Since the House has already spent a large amount of time debating Bill C-133. Members are aware of the extensive debate on this Bill. It has stretched over a prolonged period from well before the Christmas recess until today. We have spent, on the various stages of this Bill, a total of some 45 days. More than 70 speakers have now participated in its discussion. In addition, we have had, of course, extensive discussion in committee. There were some 14 meetings of the committee which heard briefs and submissions from a total of 31 witnesses, who contributed to over 500 pages of testimony. In those circumstances I should submit that for what is indeed a fairly simple and straightforward Bill, one with only two readily understandable clauses, we might conclude that ample time has been provided for debate.

If one needed any additional evidence to reach that conclusion, I should suggest that the course of our discussion today would lead anyone to the conclusion that every aspect of this matter has been fully discussed. For example, earlier today we spent some time on Petro-Canada. We heard a number of Members from the other side of the House discuss aspects of PetroCan's capital spending program. It was largely an erroneous discussion but, be that as it may, we also had the matter of abortion introduced. In those circumstances we can conclude that just about everything there is to be said about Bill C-133 has already been said. Therefore, I urge Members to support the orderly termination of this discussion and to get on with the other pressing matters on our agenda.

• (1650)

However, there are two points which I should like to make in passing regarding the substance of the Bill. The Minister introduced a motion which has the effect of raising the pension increase in 1983 to 6.5 per cent from 6 per cent and in 1984 to 5.5 per cent from the earlier 5 per cent. That motion takes into account the underlying circumstances of the Public Service pension scheme. The President of the Treasury Board (Mr.