

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I was here and I saw what happened. The hon. member may have risen on one occasion, but he interjected eight or ten times. While I am on my feet may I say to the hon. member that I was surprised at some of his language. I represent a working class, ethnic constituency. We know something about rough language in my constituency, but I would not, in this House or in public, use the kind of language which the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre used yesterday—the kind of language which the CBC reported but refused, I suppose for reasons of delicacy, to quote.

Mr. Osler: You will find that CTV quoted it verbatim.

Mr. Anderson: I am sure all the little old ladies will like your speech.

Mr. Orlikow: The hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich (Mr. Anderson) can rise whenever he wants to speak, instead of interjecting from his seat. What the government is proposing in this bill is nothing more than the establishment of another mutual fund, and Canada already has more than enough mutual funds. We already have Power Corporation, CP Investments, Investors Syndicate and Argus Corporation. People who have money to invest can invest it in those corporations.

The way that the minister proposes to establish the CDC will make it something that we do not really need. It will serve no useful function. But even that is not enough for the minister. I quote from the press release he put out on January 25, which states in part:

—the bill specifically directs CDC to invest for profit in the best interest of the shareholders.—

If its major purpose is to make a profit, the corporation is doomed to failure in fulfilling its most important functions before it comes into existence. It will be a failure because it will serve no useful purpose in meeting the needs of the Canadian people to slow down and prevent further takeovers of Canadian companies by foreign corporations. As proposed by the government, the CDC will be a failure because it completely avoids governmental responsibility in the field of industrial development. This is because the government is committed to a corporation which must make a profit. It is the desire for profit, a legitimate desire on the part of private companies, which has encouraged company after company owned by Canadians to sell out to foreign investors. The need for private profit has not provided an answer to the needs of Canadian national development or to the need of the survival of a Canadian identity.

Since the minister has ruled out the CDC buying back foreign owned corporations, since he has ruled out using the CDC as a method of preventing further takeovers, and since he will not use the corporation as a prime tool to control foreign ownership, what useful purpose will the corporation fulfil? I suggest it will perform no useful purpose except the political purpose of making Canadians believe something is being done which will meet their needs, when in fact nothing of importance will be done.

I have already indicated that what the government is proposing is the establishment of another holding compa-

Canada Development Corporation

ny, another mutual fund like the many which we already have. There is nothing here that will help further Canadian independence. If profit is the primary purpose of the CDC, the corporation will not be prepared to buy a Canadian company which is being taken over by foreign interests. If profit is the sole or major criterion, the CDC cannot take over a company which is not making money. A good example of this is the steel mill at Sydney, formerly owned by Dosco.

Under Dosco the steel mill was losing money. Each year it was becoming more obsolete and less able to compete with Stelco at Hamilton, or with Algoma at the Sault. It was losing so much money that there was no alternative to closing it, with the consequent loss of several thousand jobs, except for the government to take it over. What has happened since then? Lo and behold, under government management—which according to so many hon. members and so many newspapers is inefficient and does not know how to operate business enterprises—suddenly the steel mill at Sydney is doing more business than it ever did before. Suddenly workers are fully employed. Suddenly there is enough money and enough business.

• (3:40 p.m.)

The steel corporation, now publicly owned, can look forward to getting money to modernize so that it can produce steel even cheaper and more efficiently than before. When privately owned, the corporation was in poor shape and had Dosco wanted to dispose of the steel mill the Canada Development Corporation could not have taken it over. But that is the kind of thing that will happen as a result of the blind faith of the Minister of Finance that the major role of CDC is to make a profit. According to the minister, three-quarters of a million dollars will be invested in the Canada Development Corporation in a period of three years. That money will belong to the people of Canada as a whole, but the profits will go to only 7 or 10 per cent of the Canadian people who can afford to invest in it. For the other 90 to 93 per cent of Canadian people who cannot afford to invest except through the \$750 million of their tax money which the government will plow into it, there will be no profit.

The minister proposes that existing Crown corporations such as Polymer Corporation Limited, Panarctic Oils Limited, Eldorado Nuclear Limited and Northern Transportation Company Limited be sold to the Canada Development Corporation. This means that these companies, which have been performing an extremely useful social and economic function for all the people of Canada, will be transferred to the few who can afford to invest in the Canada Development Corporation. That corporation will use as its nucleus the tax revenue of \$750 million to be given to it over the next three years. This money will come from all Canadians, but only those who have invested in the corporation will benefit.

This situation might be tolerated if the purpose of the corporation were to fulfil social needs and to bring economic benefits to the people of Canada as a whole. If the corporation is being established to help create jobs or