

Mr. STANLEY KNOWLES (Winnipeg North Centre): In just a few words may I say it is precisely because I, as a private member, want to see parliament get to the matters which concern the people of Canada that I support this motion. All it proposes is that we spend today—if we do not waste it in discussing the motion—on the address in reply to the speech from the throne. If I thought the effect of this motion would be to deny any right or privilege of a private member I think hon. gentlemen know I would be one of the first to oppose it, but as a private member I am concerned about the things which concern the people in the constituency I represent.

Mr. MERRITT: Name those things.

Mr. KNOWLES: My hon. friend asks me to name them. One of those things is the reimposition of price control to check the high cost of living. Another matter is the extension of the Agricultural Products Act. I want this parliament to get to those things in this short session, for if we do not get to them they will expire at the end of this month. That is why I support this motion; that is why I hope it will pass and we will get to these really important matters so we may discuss the things that concern the people of Canada.

Mr. GORDON GRAYDON (Peel): Just before this motion is dealt with by the house I want to say a word in clarification of something I feel has been largely forgotten in this discussion. It is very clear indeed that for some reason the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) has overlooked the meat of the whole debate this afternoon, because you cannot take this motion alone. You have to take it together with the second motion; and what do they together mean? It is all very well for the government over there to say, "Why don't you support this first motion and allow us to get on with the speech from the throne?" We will give you support for this first motion if you will tell us that you will introduce no more restrictive motions afterwards, but will allow us to discuss the issues of the day. That is all we ask. The government is not doing that; and it is not going to fool the opposition or the country on this.

An hon. MEMBER: We do not need to.

Mr. GRAYDON: Perhaps we have taken care of you on that score already. You cannot fool the people, either, as to why the government is taking this action. None of us was born yesterday, I hope; certainly the people of Canada were not born yesterday. They

know why the government is restricting the debate on the speech from the throne. We have listened to every reason, except the right one; and the right reason is that the government is afraid to have this debate in the House of Commons. I charge the government with being afraid to face the issues which concern the people of Canada. They may argue all they like; but I say these two motions, linked together, one after the other, are just an answer to the Canadian people by the government which says, "We will not allow, by virtue of our over-powering majority in the House of Commons, a discussion of the issues which the people want discussed."

That is the issue. I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that the sooner the country knows the government is blocking the rights of the people, and their desire to have these matters discussed, the sooner the public will form their conclusions.

I am not surprised by the C.C.F. when it comes here supporting the government again. Sometimes I think they are pretty innocent, when they fall for the blandishments of the government. But, Mr. Speaker, this opposition party is not going to do that. And when my hon. friend in the C.C.F. talks about his desire to get on with the price control discussion, and the discussion about the high cost of living, I am not referring to any single member of the C.C.F. group, because that would be contrary to the rules, but I refer to the group when I say I am just about tired of listening to all their talk—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. GRAYDON: I will stand here until I say what I intended to say. It is about time the C.C.F. party quit playing hypocritical politics with respect to the high cost of living. Not one member of the C.C.F., not one member—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. GRAYDON: Mr. Speaker, not a single member of the C.C.F. group will stand up in answer to what I say, and say that he is prepared to put full price control and price restriction right across the line. He dare not do it. The last time they said anything on that question they said they would not put controls on wages. I dare them to say they will put further controls on agriculture today. I think if they were prepared to adopt something less than a hypocritical attitude about the matter, it would be better. These C.C.F. people are only playing politics with price controls.

Mr. KNOWLES: Where do you stand?