

minister after minister rise and say that there was nothing to worry about because they had all agreed to the good behaviour guidelines that we laid down. Of course, this good behaviour did the government a lot of good. These companies applied for DISC and did not even bother to tell the government what they were doing. I suspect that this takeover legislation will serve as nothing more than camouflage to get the government off the hook about doing something about foreign ownership. Frankly, I would prefer to have no legislation at all, rather than this timid, insipid legislation that will do no good. I would prefer to keep the government on the hook, to keep them under pressure and to keep them responsive to the Canadian people. A great deal more would be accomplished in this way.

Everyone faces a dilemma with regard to the foreign ownership issue. People in my party face a dilemma. I do not suggest for a moment that there is total agreement within my party as to how we should proceed and how far we should proceed. There are differences. But there is one thing on which my party is united. There are no more facetious comments, as there have been in the past from the other side of the House, about the waffle movement and about what we are doing with regard to this. There is one thing on which we are all united. All of us are determined that this country is going to remain independent. While we may not all agree on the exact techniques to accomplish these things—that is an on-going debate—in this party, unlike the other parties, there is an absolute determination to do something about foreign ownership and Canadian independence. I cannot say that about the Liberal and Conservative parties.

• (1600)

There is a kind of tragic dilemma that faces many Liberals. I am sure that all of us in this House come to know each other, regardless of the parties to which we belong, and we develop a fair amount of respect for each other despite our political differences. Mr. Speaker, it is tragic to see what is happening to the good Liberals, to those who want to be Canadian nationalists. They want to stay inside the Liberal party. They think that by staying in the party they can exert pressure from within, that they can change the party's course on foreign ownership and strike a blow for Canadian nationalists. But the fact is that all those well intentioned Liberals have failed.

I do not want to talk about my friends in the Conservative party. When it comes to the question of foreign ownership the differences in that party are so deep that nothing seems to emerge upon which we can comment.

Mr. Dinsdale: Worry about your own differences.

Mr. Saltzman: I have explained our differences, and I have been frank about them. You should be frank about your differences in the Conservative party.

Here I can think of my friends in the Committee for an Independent Canada, who sent a telegram to all of us asking us to support a position on Canadian independence, and to take a strong position on foreign ownership. I think of their desperate attempts to justify their political affiliations, at least those who are not in the New Democratic Party, and to reconcile them with their sense of

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Canadian independence and their concern about the future. I think of candidates like Mel Hurtig and other fine people, trying to walk the line, saying, "We can do it within the Liberal party." The question is: can they? I don't think they can. Here I also think of newspapers like the *Toronto Star*. No one can say the *Toronto Star* has not fought as hard as a newspaper can for Canadian independence. But still it supports the Liberal party. When it comes to a question of the fortunes of the Liberal party they forget about Canadian nationalists. Other issues become more important to them. All of their prestige, and all of the words of the best editorial writers they can command then say, "It's again time to vote Liberal."

I can also think of my friend, Eddie Goodman, the former chairman of the Conservative party, trying to do the same thing within the framework of the Committee for an Independent Canada. These are people whose loyalty to their parties is so great—I am not critical of them for that because my loyalty to my party is deep—that it poses a dilemma for them. How do you reconcile your desire for Canadian independence with on-going loyalty to your own party? These people are still waiting for change to be made from within. Apparently all the people I have mentioned have indicated that they are not prepared to change their political affiliations. They have said that they are going to work from within their parties. But can they bring about this change? Can they, in fact, accomplish this? I do not think they can.

The reason is that the Liberals, for one, are immobilized by their own outdated ideology of free enterprise. They will not intervene in the economy. If they will not intervene in the economy, then the cause of Canadian independence is hopeless.

I was quite interested in the references that the hon. member for Duvernay made to the other measures that are necessary—how it is necessary to relate fiscal and monetary policies, and how it is necessary to have some kind of an industrial strategy if we are going to deal with foreign ownership. I concur in those statements because while foreign ownership is a problem it is not the only problem in the management of the economy. Unless the whole problem of foreign ownership is put in the context of what we as a nation desire, what social purposes we have, what kind of society we want to be, what our objectives are, how we are going to relate to all industry and not just to foreign industry, what sort of things we are going to emphasize and concentrate on, and how we will relate our monetary and fiscal policies to these objectives, then we cannot deal with foreign ownership.

We cannot bring in related legislation on takeovers. To what are you going to relate it? Will you bring in legislation limiting the ownership? How does that tie in with your plans? Which industry do you say is not desirable, and which is? How does it tie in with your plans? When you have no plans you have no datum. You cannot make decisions of this type. This is one of the reasons I and many other people continue to support my party. We at least realize that without some degree of planning in our society we cannot do anything about foreign ownership. This is the critical point about the entire debate on the foreign ownership issue. Unless the nationalists are prepared to take this position, then their nationalism will go