

*Estimates*

ing the success of new concepts such as Metropolitan Area Growth Investments Ltd., and so on. The consultative process is necessary but it must be more efficient, with more action and less repetition.

DREE should interest itself more in promoting a regional banking policy in co-operation with the Department of Finance. The restructuring of the branch banking system to provide, among other things, Bank of Canada offices in different regions of Canada would definitely secure more policy input through different interests and be, as well, an instrument for regional development.

The Department should also take a more active interest in promoting the concept of equal pay for equal work by federal employees under the jurisdiction of the Treasury Board. I am certain there are areas where disparities and inequities exist in this regard, and there is no justification for them. The government should consider the formation of the domestic counterpart of our Export Development Corporation—I know the minister has indicated he has this in mind—to provide the same type of aid to slow growth areas of Canada for large projects as it provides to impoverished nations through our foreign aid programs. The reasons are obvious. When foreign interests finance major capital projects, such as oil refineries in Atlantic Canada, conditions are imposed whereby much of the equipment and related functions are provided by foreign interests to the detriment of Canadian manufacturers and tradesmen.

Certainly DREE should be decentralized so that regional offices can provide services to small industry with as much pragmatism and efficiency as banks and finance companies. Only in special cases involving projects over a certain amount would decisions need to be referred to Ottawa. There are many other concepts to which the minister should address himself, such as the emerging legislation of foreign investment review, with definite implications so far as DREE is concerned; upgrading of the status of the Standing Committee on Regional Development—the same can be said of most other standing committees of the House of Commons—and the need in future years for the committee to commence its proceedings earlier in the session.

In closing, and on a positive note, I want to thank the minister sincerely for his attention to many of the matters brought before him in committee and otherwise, such as problems with regard to DEVCO, the needs of the Cape Breton miners, his change in policy in publishing monthly reports on DREE whether or not parliament is in session, and so on. The minister took into account some conditions which the president of DEVCO did not. He paid heed to the experience, recommendations and representations of the committee on regional development. He did not restrict himself to the recommendations necessarily of the president of DEVCO. Those of us who were members of the committee appreciate this and sincerely wish to thank the minister. As Professor T. Wilson, a noted authority on regional development, said in his report prepared some years ago for the Atlantic Provinces Research Board:

The fact remains that the case for assisting the less developed regions will be all the stronger if the assistance can be given in a form which does not involve a conflict of objectives and does not call for the permanent subsidization of these areas by the rest of the country.

[Mr. MacKay.]

● (2130)

If regional measures can be made to strengthen rather than retard national development, then the case for such measures will be made to rest on a firm foundation.

**Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the motion standing in my name and which has been moved by me. Ordinarily the rules would prohibit me from speaking in the debate at this stage. As Your Honour realizes, I have not yet spoken. There are one or two brief matters on which I would like to speak in connection with notices filed by the opposition on this allotted day, and I therefore seek the indulgence of the House and ask for unanimous consent to allow me these last twelve minutes in order to deal with these matters.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Hon. members have heard the request of the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen). Is there consent to allow the hon. member to take the floor at this time?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Nielsen:** May I thank hon. members for their courtesy—

**An hon. Member:** No.

**Mr. Paproski:** Too late.

**Mr. Nielsen:**—in extending this privilege to me.

**Mr. Symes:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I said “no” from back here. You did not hear me.

**Mr. Paproski:** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. He did not say “no” until after the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) began speaking.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Order, please. Hon. members should be aware of the fact that it might be very difficult for the Chair to hear the yeas and nays, and hon. members also have the privilege of rising. If they rise, they can be recognized. I did not see the hon. member. The fact is that I have already called upon the hon. member for Yukon. With the consent of the House, I think he should be allowed to continue.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Nielsen:** Very briefly, in the short time left, Sir, I want to deal with the notice of opposition in connection with the police and security planning group in the Department of the Solicitor General. The item stands on the notice paper as No. 6, and the motion to restore the vote stands in the name of the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury).

The police and security planning and analysis group has been a sore point with us on this side for some time, ever since it was set up by the previous solicitor general, now the Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Goyer). As the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has informed not only members of the public but the House, we had an in-camera briefing session with the group at headquarters which left members of this party far from satisfied that the group is