

able to affect which spending projects will go ahead and which will not. This directly affects the futures of Canadian small businesses, farmers, working people and their families.

The banks control the future of these people, not only because of very large cash reserves in investment portfolios, but also because of the very carefully placed directors whom they share with the nation's large resource, manufacturing and agricultural corporations.

As one diligent Canadian sociologist points out, and I quote:

The boards of all the major banks consist of representatives of all the top 100 corporations. The Royal Bank includes members from Abitibi Paper, Algoma Steel, Asbestos Corporation, Canadian Pacific, B.C. Forest Products, Imperial Oil, Imasco and Noranda.

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce includes representatives from Bell Canada, B.C. Telephone, Canada Cement Lafarge, Canada Packers, Crown-Zellerbach, Domtar, Falconbridge Nickel, Hollinger Mines, MacMillan Bloedel, Massey Ferguson, Noranda, Simpsons, TransCanada Pipe Lines; and the Bank of Montreal includes representatives from Alcan, B.C. Sugar Refinery, Bell Canada, Brinco, Canada Cement Lafarge, Canadian Forest Products, Canadian Pacific, Eatons, Seagrams, International Nickel, Molsons, Rothman's and the Steel Company of Canada. In addition, other financial corporations, such as Power, Argus, Brascan, the insurance companies and other financial institutions are well represented. Indeed, each is many times represented both through the main holding company and through the subsidiaries.

● (2010)

It is through this network of companies and through their own subsidiaries and connections with foreign banking firms that the big Canadian banks channel funds into some very dubious activities indeed, both in this country and abroad.

Before I mention some of the activities of Canadian banks in countries overseas, I should like to point out some of the dubious places where bank funds are being channelled right here in Canada, and I am referring specifically to the Liberal and Conservative parties.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Robinson (Burnaby):** In 1978, the last year for which records are available—I will be looking with interest at the updated figures this year—the following contributions are recorded in the Liberal party receipts. These are gifts to our friends on the other side of the House. The Bank of Montreal, \$25,000; the Bank of Nova Scotia, \$20,000; Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, \$25,000; the Royal Bank, \$25,000; Toronto-Dominion Bank, \$20,000—all five of them in the pockets of the Liberal party. We have all heard the tale that he who pays the piper calls the tune.

Not to leave the Conservatives to one side, let me point out that these gifts matched almost exactly those that were received by the Tories from the same sources. The only difference was that the Conservatives received \$20,098.75 from the Bank of Nova Scotia and \$25,351 from the Bank of Commerce. All the rest were the same. So now perhaps we understand somewhat more clearly why both the Liberals and the Conservatives are conspiring to push this legislation through the House as quickly as possible. I do not have to add that there are no such receipts from the banks in the records of the NDP, which is a party which is democratically financed.

### *Bank Act*

It is worth keeping these investments by the banks in mind when we hear the government and Tory members in the House eagerly calling for rapid passage of this legislation and telling us how many times it has been before committees and before the House.

Let us look at some of the many investments that Canadian banks have made beyond this nation's borders. Earlier in the discussion of this bill we heard the hon. member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle) describing vividly some of the effects of Canadian bank loans in a country like Jamaica. Although the banks are extremely reluctant to release information about their overseas loans, they have certainly been active in some of the more, shall we say, interesting parts of the world. Tonight I will mention only two, namely, South Africa and Chile. In the latter country, researchers have turned up a number of recent loans by Canadian banks acting as members of international consortia. Canadian banks are known to have participated in some 68 consortium loans to Latin American countries in 1978, and 75 in 1979. Of the \$10.6 billion and \$13.9 billion lent in those respective years, the Canadian component is difficult to determine. However, we do know that there have been recent Canadian loans to Chilean agencies, for example, the Bank of Nova Scotia's recent participation, a \$70 million loan, to the Compania Manufactura Papeles y Cortones, CMPC, advertised in the periodical *Chile News* in October, 1979.

Others include the Bank of Montreal's participation in a consortium that lent \$81 million to the Chilean national electrical company, ENDESA, advertised in *Chile Economic News* in August, 1979. Another one is to the National Bank of Canada and the Toronto-Dominion Bank, members of a consortium which lent \$105 million to the Banco de Chile.

**An hon. Member:** What are banks for?

**Mr. Robinson (Burnaby):** I hear some speakers for the banks in the Tory party who are attempting to justify these loans. If they would stand up and do that, they will have their chance, Mr. Speaker. The same two banks, namely, the National Bank of Canada and the Toronto-Dominion Bank, were also members of a consortium which lent \$53 million to the Banco de l'Estado de Chile, reported in the *Financial Times* of London on December 13, 1979. These are only a few of the recent loans that Canadian banks have made to the bloody, repressive Pinochet regime in Chile.

I should like to point out that earlier, in 1976, the Royal Bank on one occasion made a \$125 million loan to a Chilean agency, even though British and European banks had refused to make a similar loan.

Efforts to find out the extent of bank dealings in foreign countries have not been very fruitful. The Parliamentary Library, the Bank of Canada, and the Inspector General of Banks all reported that they could not say how much money Canadian banks have invested in individual countries overseas. A member of my staff, for example, was told by an official in the Inspector General's office that even though such information had been compiled, the statistics cannot be made public.