

Canada Pension Plan

time. I was also available at any time that committee decided to call me. I do not intend to give quarter to anyone in an elected position in respect of my information and knowledge of this bill.

I have spoken in this house and outside this house without notes, without assistance from my colleagues and without the assistance of my parliamentary secretary. However it should be known that this government is one which acts in a collective fashion. It should also be known that my colleague, the Minister of National Revenue, at least to anyone who is capable of reading the bill, is constitutionally responsible for about one third of it. My parliamentary secretary, unlike those in this house under the preceding administration, has been given—and deservedly so—a great deal of work to do on this legislation which has involved trust, honour and intelligence, and I am glad to have colleagues of that kind.

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. I think this committee has spent enough time discussing this point of order. I am sure it would be advantageous to the committee to now return to the remarks of the hon. member for Edmonton East, which were interrupted, following which I shall recognize the hon. member for Villeneuve.

Mr. Caouette: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

[*Translation*]

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I feel it is improper for the Minister of National Health and Welfare to make a political speech at this time, as she just did when she said that some members are preventing the passage of the legislation she introduced.

Why does the minister herself, and the Minister of National Revenue, introduce legislation that other members can hardly accept, when the Minister of Finance or any other minister now sitting on the front benches should be responsible for it?

I feel that the Minister of National Health and Welfare has no right to impute motives to any member.

If we have questions, we have every right to ask them under the rules of the house without having to hear the political complaints we have just heard from the Minister of National Health and Welfare. We have the right to ask any questions we want and to insist on logical and intelligent answers which will inform parliament and the Canadian people as a whole.

The Minister of National Health and Welfare does not have the right to indulge in party politics as she did a few minutes ago.

[*Text*]

Mr. Skoreyko: Mr. Chairman, to return to the question I posed earlier, which was interrupted by the hon. member for Halifax, let me state that that hon. member seems to be an authority on everything which takes place in this house, except parliamentary conduct. I have heard all I want to hear from that hon. member and I hope that he does not persist in pursuing these facetious points of order.

Mr. Chairman, you referred to the question of relevancy. I suggest there was nothing relevant in the remarks made by the Minister of National Revenue when he quoted certain statements from the record of this House of Commons in connection with the evidence given by Mr. Robarts, premier of the province of Ontario, before the joint committee.

In reference to the question posed by the hon. member for Acadia as to what will happen to our existing plans in Canada, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, the member for Niagara Falls, answered the question very simply by saying: No, no, no.

Miss LaMarsh: It was not the member for Niagara Falls.

Mr. Skoreyko: I might say this to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, that her conduct in this house since this bill came before it could be likened to that of someone in a rogues gallery and would not be tolerated if she were not a lady.

Mr. Munro: Mr. Chairman, since the hon. member rose on this last occasion he has done nothing but attack one member after another on this side in a partisan fashion, and he is the hon. member who condemns this party on political partisan grounds.

Mr. Skoreyko: Mr. Chairman, if the junior embryo would listen to the facts—

An hon. Member: Sit down.

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Skoreyko: Perhaps if the hon. member for Hamilton West would restrain himself he might—

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please.

An hon. Member: Sit down, for goodness sakes.

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please.