S.O. 31

we had people lie to us and provide incomplete and inadequate information. People refused to provide information; for example, the Inspector General of Banks. In other words, it turned out to be a bit of a sham.

We wrote a report that pointed out to the best of our knowledge these were the problems in the banking system and there were many, many more but we could not get any co-operation from the people appearing before the committee. Then the Government comes along and says it is going to cost the taxpayers \$1 billion but don't worry, it is going to carry out an inquiry where the witnesses can mislead Members of Parliament, lie to us, leave out information and refuse to answer questions. We have asked for documentation we feel is appropriate to carry out a decent, responsible inquiry and the Government says no, we cannot have that information.

Mr. Holtmann: You just don't have any clout, that is all.

Mr. Blenkarn: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Will the Hon. Member table in the House or tell us the exact information and the exact documentation he believes the Government ought to supply in the proposed motion the Government has before the House?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): The Hon. Member knows full well that is not a point of order.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs ought to know because what he has requested is public information. What he is asking for has been filed and if he does now know that, he should bloody well know it.

Mr. Blenkarn: Tell us. Put it on the record right now.

Mr. Riis: We asked for details of the loan portfolios but Price-Waterhouse said they would not provide that to the committee.

Mr. Holtmann: They don't trust you with it.

Mr. Riis: They said that publicly. They don't trust us with it?

Mr. Deans: They trust the Minister.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, if that is the attitude of Government Members toward that committee, then they better have a discussion with the chairman. They have no faith in the ability of this committee to carry out this inquiry properly.

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Speaker, I want to make it very clear that I am asking the NDP to outline in detail in this House what they insist be made available to the committee because I think it is important that it be on the record.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Order, please.

Mr. Blenkarn: Everything will be made available if at all possible.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Order, please. Once again, that is not a point of order.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, it is not a question of whether Government Members trust what is going on in the committee. It is a question of whether the people of Canada have the right to know what has been going on.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Riis: At the moment the Government has refused to provide what it says is reasonable and responsible information.

Mr. Blenkarn: We agree.

Mr. Riis: I want to mention one critical point, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Blenkarn: I want to know what you want.

Mr. Riis: It is the list of the uninsured depositors who the Government says will be receiving about \$1 billion of taxpayers' money. These are phantom depositors. Faceless! Nameless! They have only \$200,000 on deposit or maybe \$10 million. They may be the Bank of Hong Kong, the Bank of Singapore, the Bank of America or Wells Fargo. We do not know who these people are and the Government refuses to provide the list. The chairman of the committee has said that in his opinion that list should be provided. The Chairman of the Toronto-Dominion Bank, who was a participant in the original bail-out of the CCB, says that list should be provided. No way should we be taking taxpayers' money, writing out cheques to nameless depositors who had their money in the bank knowing full well it was not secure at all. It was not insured. But that is all we are asking. We are asking for a list of depositors.

Mr. Blenkarn: Is that all?

• (2110)

Mr. Riis: The Minister of State for Finance has indicated that this will not be forthcoming and neither will other pieces of information such as the details of the loan portfolio. We are concerned about the Hitchman report. We recognize that it may be beyond the ability of the Minister to provide the report of the United States Reserve Board, yet, based on all the other items which the Government says it cannot provide, we wonder how hard it tried to get that report which describes the problems of the Canadian Commercial Bank's subsidiary in California.

Mr. Benjamin: Pick up the phone to Ronnie.

Mr. Riis: We, as responsible parliamentarians, are being asked to carry out an inquiry into the collapse of the Canadian Commercial Bank and the problems associated with the