

Supply

Mr. Barrett: Mr. Speaker, I thought I got an agreement from Dingwall.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I would appreciate some explanation from the hon. member.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): The details of this new organic union should be spelled out to the House so that the rest of us will understand precisely what is happening.

Mr. Dingwall: Mr. Speaker, we are going to have a royal commission and we are going to study it very thoroughly. I want to tell the Chair that the hon. member is a senior member of this Chamber and we thought out of the generosity of Christmas time, since he did not wish to join our party nevertheless we would give him an opportunity to take the floor and speak for 10 to 12 minutes or thereabouts. Then we would continue on with the debate.

Mr. David Barrett (Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca): Mr. Speaker, I want to reconsider. Generally I am not in receipt of such generosity from the two governing parties which have been tandem in creating the mess that we are talking about in this country for the last 50 years. I welcome their understanding of my role in this debate.

I particularly appreciate the amendment to this debate that says since 1982, because they are wrapped up in it too. I am not here to blame the Liberals. I am not here to blame the Tories because they have been faithful to their political supporters. This is a direct result of their faith in their political supporters because both parties are the representatives of the corporate agenda in Canada.

As a consequence of being true to their corporate supporters, they have brought this country to its knees except for one major distinction. No previous Liberal or Conservative government ever gave up on Canada until this government was elected. This government, unlike previous Liberal governments and Conservative governments, gave up on Canada the day it started to negotiate the free trade agreement.

Who was it who made the strongest speech and the most clear position prior to the election of 1984 against the free trade agreement? It was none other than the Leader of the Conservative Party, the present Prime Minister, who said: "Do not talk to me about free trade. I will never lead Canada down this road". Do you remember that my friends?

Some hon. members: Yes, yes.

Mr. Barrett: Yes, they all remember that. Do you remember that over there on that side, my friends? They do not remember that, Mr. Speaker. I am shocked. They do not remember the wise words of their own leader that had misled some of them to think that when they supported the present Prime Minister he would keep his word and never get involved in free trade. How shocked they were.

They were so shocked they lost their ability to think and they have blindly followed him ever since he changed his mind. It was the now Prime Minister of this country who said he would never allow free trade to take place. He said not to talk to him about free trade.

An hon. member: Unfair.

Mr. Barrett: Ah, my dear friend. Mr. Speaker, I am under attack. Why am I under attack? They are attacking me for repeating the words of the Prime Minister. I want to tell you I am shocked. I know that all Canadians attack me for repeating the words of the Prime Minister. I know the Liberals attack me for repeating the words of the Prime Minister. But when the government criticizes the words of the Prime Minister, I am shocked.

He said "Don't talk to me about free trade". Now it wants to amend it and add words to it. Don't give me that stuff. The reality was that was its agenda and that is what caused the problem.

Now the consequence of that is anger, frustration, and general disappointment in this country. It has even spawned a new party called the Reform Party. The Reform Party is a right wing reaction to what it feels is a betrayal by the Conservative Party. The right wing has left the Conservative Party and threatens to throw into the ashcan those moderate Tories who have more sense and more reason from a tradition known as the red Tories.

One of them is the minister in charge of the Constitution. Here he is spending his time trying to put this country back together when he may not even win his own seat again.

Why is that happening in this country? I will tell you why it is happening. Canadians from coast to coast have lost faith in this government because it cannot solve the problems it created by its policies.