

*Export Development Act*

would be depreciated and justified. However, because this is a Crown corporation those actions can take place in the confines of a room and that type of expenditure can take place and does take place all over the country.

We have tabled report No. 7 from the Special Committee on Standing Orders and Procedure in the House asking for a new committee structure and new strengths so that we can examine more effectively this whole level of subgovernment that is being built. This Bill is simply adding to that along with Canagrex and CDIC.

CDIC will probably be the noose that hangs this nation. We are delivering massive powers and massive resources to an enclave of people outside the accountability parameters of the House and this country. The behavioural patterns that will take place will shock the people of this nation within five years, if they have not already done so. One only has to look at the pattern of the players and how they have behaved in and out of the private sector and in and out of Government, Cabinet and the bureaucracy. They seem to have a refusal or an insane desire to beat the game, to play outside the rules of behaviour.

With this type of legislation we in this country are dealing with this whole matter of the struggle between the interventionists and the behaviouralists. I stand before you and my colleagues in the House, Mr. Speaker, to say proudly that I am a behaviouralist. I believe that if we do our job in this country and in the House and define the standards of behaviour, equity and fairness that we want and set rules that punish those who do not deliver to those standards of behaviour, that is all we can do in a free society.

We are not doing that job. We are yielding to those and that mindset that exists with the bureaucracy and socialistic ranks in the country. The academics and people who have never balanced accounts, met payrolls and payables, all of these people who have come from the land of academia and the universities, think they know how to do it better than the rough and tumble world of trial and error. You can see the mood of Thatcherism that is taking hold in Great Britain. That country went through this whole exercise and even the rank and file in Great Britain now recognize that there was something seriously wrong. You cannot have anything for nothing. It will take blood, sweat, tears, work, toil, mindset, attitudes, innovation, savings, thrift and frugality if we are going to lift ourselves up and afford the standard of living and social welfare we expect our system to maintain.

● (1120)

The interventionism in this type of legislation and in this Bill is the hangman's noose for equality of life in Canada. What the Government is doing is delivering us farther and farther down the road. The Government will not even allow a proper balance of directors from the private sector in this corporation. There is a memo that lists the directors. There are six senior public servants, very able men, men of high academic ability, of far higher intellect probably than I but they are certainly short on the rough and tumble experience of life that I have. I

think the type of rough and tumble experience that is available from the private sector would be a very good balance to have in these Crown corporations.

Let us take a look at B.C. coal development. I had a senior civil servant come to me and say: "Ron, have you looked at the list of directors of that corporation that is spending \$1 billion?" Right at the top of the list it shows four senior civil servants. This is not a 50-50 public-private mix, Sir. When you get these Crown corporations, such as the EDC, entrenched and given special powers outside of the laws and rules that apply to the rest of the country, you are dead because the nature of man, the acquisitive, power-seeking nature of man, is such that man will abuse everything that he touches and forget why he was put there.

We are no longer creating Crown corporations as instruments of public policy. We are creating environments of power and acquisition for individuals that have risen up through the ranks of the Liberal Party and the Government of Canada. I stand here and say that unless this House accepts its responsibilities, gets back to a standard of accountability in this area and allows proper examination of this whole Crown corporation structure, we are not going to be able to pay our bills. We will lose face internationally. That fact is already in evidence. It is time some of those people on the Government benches heard this plea. If not they should go to the people to get it changed so we can save what we have.

**Mr. Tom McMillan (Hillsborough):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to participate in the debate on Bill C-110, an Act to amend the Export Development Act, at the report stage.

We are dealing with two amendments in particular. But I think those amendments must be viewed in the context of the total Bill. Essentially, the Act seeks first to expand the operational capacity of the Export Development Corporation by increasing the borrowing authority of the Government through the relevant corporation without reference to Parliament, and, also, by increasing the amount of high risk or bad business transactions the Cabinet can approve—from \$3.5 billion to \$10 billion in the case of insurance, and from \$2.5 billion to \$10 billion in the case of loans and guarantees.

Second, the Bill seeks to alter the current structure and powers of the board of directors of the relevant corporation. I submit to you that those changes are minor, certainly in terms of increasing the accountability of the corporation to Parliament and through Parliament to the Canadian people.

Before I get into the particular amendments, I want to stress for my own part that we on this side of the House are not against Crown corporations per se as an instrument of public policy. They can be an effective vehicle for promoting a given public policy of the Government, indeed of the country, if that vehicle is used wisely and within limitations. It is necessary from time to time for Government to create a structure or bureaucracy which can operate on a day-to-day basis at arm's length from control by politicians and bureaucrats alike. Government needs to minimize such interference so that the people concerned can get on with the job. That is why I for one