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which requires proper development and co-operation on the East Coast.

In conclusion, I would like to point out that it is the same in British Columbia and Alberta as it is in Atlantic Canada. We must have a commitment from the federal Government much like the commitment of the Prime Minister to give Quebec its rightful place in Canada. We must have a commitment to develop the regions. We must have a commitment from the federal Government to provide capital for those regions. That is why it will take more radical measures than is provided by changing DREE to DRIE. It will require provincial governments that are prepared to plan, not just sell out to the nearest multinational company that wants to come in, promise some jobs and milk the province for all it is worth. Perhaps these are not popular things to say. Perhaps I will be criticized for saying them. However, I am trying to point out the truth as I see it. It is time politicians spoke the truth to the people of Atlantic Canada. Then maybe in the future we will see policies which will provide some real development for that region.

Mr. McMillan: The Hon. Member who just spoke made the worst and broadest generalization I have ever heard in debate on any subject in this House since I became a Member of Parliament in May of 1979, namely, that provincial governments in the Atlantic region are bad administrators. I think he might have said lousy administrators. In light of that, would the Hon. Member cite a single specific program which he considers maladministered by any one of the four Atlantic provinces? Apart from general references to patronage or to general economic conditions in the region, which specific program has been maladministered and in what specific way has that program been maladministered? How would the NDP have administered that specific program differently from the way it was administered by the relevant province?

Mr. Waddell: I assume the Hon. Member has been to Atlantic Canada, as he represents a riding in Atlantic Canada. I am calling it as I see it. For example, with respect to snow clearing, if another government gets in, different people have the contract. Highways contracts change. There is a tradition of a kind of old-fashioned patronage down there which has died out somewhat in other parts of the country.

● (1230)

It seems to me that Atlantic Canada has lousy governments which have not served their people very well. I believe they have contributed to the lack of development there. For example, I believe Premier Peckford in Newfoundland has been a disaster in going to court on the question of offshore oil, spending all his time in court and not hammering out some sort of agreement with the federal Government. I do not believe that has served the interests of the people of Newfoundland.

It seems to me from afar that those governments would rather fight in very partisan talking fests which really do not get down to planning for the issues. I mentioned the example of multinational companies moving in, giving the people all

sorts of breaks, including bad labour contracts or lack of unions and so on. They get into a situation where they are governed almost like a Third World country.

These are tough words but I believe someone should say what is going on down in Atlantic Canada. From my observation, I have never seen worse governments in Canada than in some of the Atlantic Provinces in the way they deal with their resources and mislead their people; and I make reference to Premier Buchanan with respect to the development of offshore oil and gas in Nova Scotia, which I believe is atrocious. I hope at some point the people of Atlantic Canada will throw these governments out. Whether they are Conservative or Liberal Governments they have not really provided decent development and decent planning for the people of Atlantic Canada. The proof of the pudding is in the eating. If the Hon. Member would just read his own speech about some of the economic problems in Atlantic Canada, he will see the evidence there.

Mr. Crosbie: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member who just finished speaking has made some of the broadest generalizations and most scurrilous imputations with respect to four of the governments of Canada and has yet to give us one concrete example. Does the Hon. Member realize that during the Peckford administration—and he may think it is an error in its approach to try to resolve the offshore issue—there has not been one instance of patronage or excess brought to public light in respect of that government yet? Does the Hon. Member not realize that the Government of Canada is rife with every symptom which he is alleging applies to the four Atlantic Provinces with respect to patronage on a gigantic scale across the country? Yet he sees fit to single out with a blanket indictment the four governments of the Atlantic Provinces. Surely that must be the reason why there is not a provincial representative from the New Democratic Party in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island or New Brunswick.

Does the Hon. Member not realize that this is the kind of smug, mainland attitude which the Atlantic Provinces have had to fight against now for a hundred years? And he is giving vent to the worst kind of ignorant prejudice in his remarks without putting forth one iota of evidence to sustain it.

Mr. Waddell: I take offence at the allegation of "smug, mainland attitude". I told the Hon. Member that I call them as I see them, as someone who has not taken part. The Conservative Party has been part of those governments, those poor governments. The Hon. Member who just spoke was a part of the Liberal Government there and he jumped ship—

Mr. Crosbie: I am Conservative—both.

Mr. Waddell: —both of them. He reratted, moved from one over to the other and back.

Mr. Crosbie: No, one to the other. Rerattng comes later.

Mr. Waddell: Well, he has not done that yet. The fact is, and I stand by it, that the Peckford Government was wrong in dealing, I believe, with its negotiations in offshore oil, and it has not really produced for the people of Newfoundland. I do