

Supply

year and in future years. I believe that 211 people from one political Party were chosen by the voters of this country to form the Government because the country is in a mess, and we are to go out there and select the most qualified people who will do the best job for the taxpayers of this country and turn this country around. That is what the Minister of Supply and Services did, and I am proud of it.

● (1630)

This is a day on which we can concentrate on the issue of integrity. The issue of integrity is one which is legitimate for debate in this Chamber. It is of concern to Canadians, certainly of concern to me and it is of concern to members of my Party. A day's debate on the issue of integrity is a day for very serious debate. My first introduction to the New Democratic Party's integrity was in the month of December, 1979. That Party, which said, "We stand for the ordinary people of Canada", stood in this Chamber and voted down a Budget which the Canadian Welfare Council said was the fairest Budget to the poor people of this nation in the decade of the 1970s. That was my first encounter with NDP integrity.

My second encounter was in the early days of the great Constitution debate. Most of the New Democratic Party Members who sat in this Chamber were from western Canada. That constitutional proposal would have made second, third and fourth-class citizens out of western Canadians for the rest of our lifetimes, but that Party supported it for political gains. That is the second major chunk of NDP integrity I have encountered in this Chamber.

Today is a day where we are supposed to debate the issue of integrity. Look at the motion, Mr. Speaker, which the Opposition has proposed. It states:

That, in the opinion of this House, the granting of an untendered contract to the brother-in-law of the present Minister of Finance by the Government of Canada is an unacceptable action.

Mr. Althouse: It could have said, "The granting to anyone of any untendered contract".

Mr. Hawkes: Is it a factually correct motion, Mr. Speaker? Let us take one fact which deals with one small piece of integrity. There is no such contract which exists between the Government of Canada and the brother-in-law of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson). There is a contract which exists between the Government of Canada, under the authority of the Minister of Supply and Services, and a firm, namely, Lawson Murray Ltd. The very name suggests that Lawson is one person and Murray another, and who in this Chamber knows what "Limited" represents? But there was a contract between a firm and the Government of Canada.

Mr. Althouse: And it was untendered.

Mr. Hawkes: It is an untendered contract. The New Democratic Party, when it voted in this Chamber in December, 1979, made victims of the poor people of this country. That is one of the consequences. Today the thrust of its interventions, the thrust of its motion, I suggest, runs counter to the basic

attitude which underlies support for the Charter of Rights and for a belief in the individual rights of Canadians. The last speaker of the New Democratic Party broadened the debate somewhat. The motion suggests that brothers-in-law and all of those who are associated with, in partnership, or in company with them, should be discriminated against simply because they went through a marriage ceremony. It says nothing about common-law spouses. It says nothing about first cousins, second cousins, half brothers or half sisters. But it says something about brothers-in-law.

Mr. Althouse: And a lot about untendered contracts.

Mr. Hawkes: The last speaker broadened it to the issue of friends, Mr. Speaker. If we were to buy the logic which underlies this NDP motion, we would have to start with a couple of facts. First of all, let us recognize that about 46 per cent, almost half of the Gross National Product which occurs in this country in a calendar year, occurs because of government expenditures. It is Government at all levels. Almost half the commerce in this country occurs because of government expenditures. That is the first point to recognize, Mr. Speaker. That Party is suggesting that particular classes of people, the friends of politicians and the brothers-in-law of politicians, should be excluded from a portion of that business.

I would like to ask members of the New Democratic Party a question. What would happen if, through some miracle of misinformation, the Canadian public ceased to understand the New Democratic Party and, in a moment of weakness, voted for it and put it in charge of this nation? I have in front of me just one page of Main Estimates. It is called "Figure 19: Distribution of Labour Education Funds by Organization". These are untendered contracts between the Government of Canada and labour organizations to provide educational services to their members. The first was the Canadian Labour Congress, \$4,291,000; second, Confederation of National Trade Unions, \$398,500; third, Canadian Federation of Labour, \$398,500; fourth, Canadian Conference of Teamsters, \$171,500; and fifth, Centrale de l'enseignement du Québec, \$161,500. These are single source suppliers of educational services. Members of this Party support them. They are in the Main Estimates. Members of this Party believe it is really important that those services be provided to the memberships of those unions. It is the opinion of members of this Party and of our Minister of Labour (Mr. McKnight), that these are the proper bodies for the delivery of these services. But they are untendered services, Mr. Speaker. Is the New Democratic Party telling this House that if, through some miracle, it became the Government, because these unions had members who supported it in the election, they are going to turf out these contracts, they are not going to have contracts like this with these organizations? That is the logical extension of what those Hon. Members are trying to lay on this Chamber. They are saying that simply because people participate in the democratic process, they should become second-class Canadians. That is a classic example of their logic.