

evening that he was establishing such a board and that the workers' wages would be controlled, the workers were in the process of negotiations with Inco and Falconbridge. The corporation then said "We cannot pay you in excess of the guidelines. We are good corporate citizens and we cannot break the law."

Those were true words of Samuel Johnson when he said that patriotism was the last refuge of a scoundrel. At a time in our history when we need large investments of capital in this country, those same multi-national corporations, having made their wealth here, are going beyond our borders and investing in paragons of human freedom such as Chile, Indonesia, and Guatemala. They are doing this with the aid and support of a government which has failed to take action in accordance with the needs of the people. This is a period when the government ought to be assisting in the creation of jobs for those who want to work. Instead, it is saying to the multi-national corporations "Go right ahead and create jobs abroad."

The situation is so blatant as to have led that radical, left-wing organization known as the Canadian Council of Catholic Bishops to issue the following press release at the time of the lay-offs. It was put out by Bishop Proulx, and by Bishop Alexander Carter of the Sault Ste. Marie Diocese. I want to read it because it constitutes an indictment of this government:

The massive lay-off of workers violates one of the most fundamental rights of life, namely, the right to work and to provide the basic needs of one's family. Moreover, the decisions of the companies to cut back production and terminate jobs were announced suddenly and made without prior consultation. The workers became victims of market forces and the companies exaggerated concentration of profits. . . . Sudbury has been primarily developed to serve the interests of trans-national mining companies and world nickel markets. As a result, the economic and social life of the people in this mining community has been fragile and vulnerable.

Later on in the document we find the statement:

Powerful, foreign-controlled companies exercise increasing power in Canadian society, beyond the reach of public intervention.

Remember, this is not a radical, left-wing organization. This is the Canadian Council of Catholic Bishops talking about a matter of very real concern in this country.

Where do we get investment capital? At the moment the government is running out inviting an increase of foreign ownership, preparing for a further sell-out of the economy. It is inviting foreign, multi-national corporations to come in still further and put Canadians into the position of being hewers of wood and drawers of water. It is simply piling up problems for the future.

The corporations of which we have had experience in Sudbury have always placed their own interests first. I had an interesting telephone debate the other day with a Mr. Alfred Powis, who is the President of Noranda Mines. During our conversation, Mr. Powis said to me, "Look, if Inco had not gone to Indonesia, some other mining company would have gone there. Wasn't it better that a Canadian mining company should have taken this initiative?" I have heard the same argument made by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources,

Supply

(Mr. Gillespie), that mouthpiece for the mining companies. I said to Mr. Powis, "Mr. Powis, you are absolutely correct. I have absolutely no argument with you. I think you are right, and I tip my hat to Inco and Falconbridge for having applied that kind of reasoning. The corporations set goals. The senior officers who serve them have obtained their mandate from the shareholders, and that mandate is to increase the volume of profits and hence the value of the shares as much as possible so that the shares become more attractive. I have no objection to a corporation fulfilling those goals and carrying out its mandate."

Then I said, "Now tell me, Mr. Powis, who sets the goals for Canada? What are Canada's goals? Are you telling me that Inco's goals are the same as Canada's—that what is good for Inco is good enough for Canada?" I see the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce shaking his head. That is what happens when you take a Tory and make him a Liberal cabinet minister. He screws everything up. We do not need to elect a Tory government to find out what it would do.

We have a Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, but who sets the goals for Canada? Surely the goals of multi-national corporations are not ours. The truth, unfortunately, is that members on the treasury benches have no goals. There can be no goals because they have no plan. There is no national economic plan and no sector strategy.

The other day the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources had a big "confab." This is what happens before elections—they discover they have to communicate. The minister called all the ministers of mines from the various provinces together in an attempt to develop a national mining strategy. What happened? That chatterbox from Chatham, D'Arcy McKeough, ran back to Ontario where he came out last week with a big giveaway to Inco and Falconbridge, allowing them to continue to process ore from Canada in their European refineries, indeed, encouraging them to do so by letting them write off against Ontario taxes the cost of their operations in Europe. I think this was a despicable act by someone elected to serve the taxpayers of the province of Ontario.

I asked the minister how that figured in with a national strategy on mines. I put a question to him on this subject during the question period. He played the old game of never answering the question put to him. He simply said it was the provinces which had control over these resources and over their taxation policy.

What I want to see from the government is a national economic plan with sector strategies, not mere words, but supported by legislation which would direct investment into sectors which need investment capital. We have said time and time again that in this strategy the surplus generated from the resource must be plowed back into the community where it was mined. It is surprising, and I know it will come as a shock—it might not come as a shock to some hon. members—that, for example, we do not have a research and development program in the nickel industry in the Sudbury basin. Indeed, we do not have much nickel research and development in Canada, and we have none in the Sudbury basin. When we