

it is something that was felt to be good for Prince Edward Island and the maritimes generally for the last 100 years, and it is now physically possible to do it. It is possible to do it on an economically sensible basis because it is not going to cost the people of Canada anything to operate this structure once it is up, other than what we are already paying for the costs of ferry services that now go from New Brunswick to Prince Edward Island. It is a perfectly sensible proposal on its own feet.

• (1600)

**Mr. Barrett:** You never give us a penny.

**Mr. Crosbie:** Alice in Wonderland would be boggled to hear the hon. gentleman get up from the other end of Canada with wrong information and damn a project in another part of the country because we are not building a bridge at the moment from Vancouver to Vancouver Island or whatever silly, picayune objection he is making.

This is what is wrong with our country. We have so many people like the hon. member who are jealous about whatever any other section of the country gets. Gentlemen like the hon. member are jealous about it and try to create and foment trouble about it.

You are an enemy to national unity with the arguments that you presented in this House: jealous, narrow-minded, picayune, selfish arguments that you are not getting something out in British Columbia—

**Some hon. members:** Oh, oh.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** Order, please. In fairness I give two minutes to the hon. member.

**Mr. Barrett:** Not only, Mr. Speaker, would I ask the member to withdraw personal insults but I feel complimented by the minister from Newfoundland. I am not a woman so he could not go all the way.

Let me say this: He can attack me personally all he wants. He can say anything he wants about me. It does not hurt. I have been in this business just as long as he has.

They still have to justify why they are spending \$42 million a year to solve a \$21 million problem. If that makes me a bad Canadian then his logic is all screwed

up. I am fighting for the taxpayers, not for some jingoism.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** Before giving the floor to the hon. member for Annapolis Valley—Hants, I recognize the hon. member for Calgary Southwest.

**Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased as an Albertan to be able to participate in the debate on Bill C-110. I have to say I was quite appalled at the previous speaker with regard to how Canada works together to help its brothers and sisters from coast to coast.

This bill takes us into the future. We are not going to continue to live in the past. We are going to move forward so we can be more competitive and give the people in the Atlantic region of Canada the ability to have upgraded infrastructure to promote their agriculture and their tourism and allow them to get on with things that you and I, Mr. Speaker, take for granted because they have been in our provinces for quite some time.

The positive economic factors of this bill are far greater than any of the negatives my friend from Esquimalt has been talking about. As a matter of fact it is probably one of the greatest opportunities that P.E.I. has ever had. I congratulate P.E.I. and its former premier, Joe Ghiz, as well as the former premier of New Brunswick, who worked very diligently and hard with the federal government to see this come to a reality.

I have had two or three questions with regard to the environmental review. I have to say that environmental reviews are very important with regard to all projects. This one was submitted to an environmental review. There were certain qualifications put on it with regard to the ice flow. With all due respect the government did appoint a very special committee of ice experts who said that if a bridge or the fixed link could be built with less than two days ice-out per year it would be all right with EARP or the Environmental Assessment Review Panel, which of course was done.

Let us just back up a bit and talk about this. This is not something new. It has been going on now for pretty well seven years and has been through the various environmental studies. I have to say that a plebiscite was held in