

Commerce. First of all, I would like to congratulate him for being a very articulate spokesman for Thatcherism and Reaganomics in this House. We have all seen how that has worked.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Tobin: I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that the Hon. Member is entitled to his views and I respect his right to express his views. However, when I see him appointed the shadow minister for Industry, Trade and Commerce, DREE and for the development of the regions of Canada, I become very concerned because I heard the Hon. Member opposite say—and perhaps he can correct me and reassure me as well as the far-flung regions of Canada—that he had some concern with the notion that in the reorganization of that Department there were going to be regional people, not just responsible for regions but people located in the regions, reporting directly back to the Ministers. He said he was concerned that there would be pressure on those regional officers to express regional views. I know that clashes somewhat with the centralist line, but it seems to me that all Parties, all members of the DREE committee, including Hon. Members of his own Party, have agreed many times in committee and in this House—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member has in mind the time limitation?

Mr. Tobin: I will put the question, Mr. Speaker. All Hon. Members have agreed that a strong regional voice is indeed necessary. It has been renewed with this reorganization. I am concerned that the Hon. Member opposite is saying that under a Conservative government there would be a centralist planning board and no room for regional voices, regional spokesmen and regional questions.

Mr. Wilson: Mr. Speaker, it is very interesting how the Hon. Members in the other Parties use this ten-minute interlude to distort the speeches of the Hon. Members who have just spoken. I never said that at all. What I did say was that there can be policies which are decided upon by the Government in order to support regional development, as well as the over-all economic development of the country, which can be interpreted differently by regional officers in ways which do not support the over-all policy. That is the concern which I have expressed.

I have asked the Minister to come to the House and tell us how he is going to administer this policy so we can have a co-ordinated regional development policy, rather than have different regions and different parts of the country fighting among themselves and distorting the policy, ensuring that the policy will not work.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The period of questions and answers having expired, the Hon. Member for Saskatoon East has the floor.

Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, I am happy today, as the House of Commons resumes, to have the opportunity to address Bill C-152, although I would have to say in

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the beginning that it is rather difficult to speak about something, as the previous speaker has already indicated which has already taken place. We are talking about a reorganization of departments in Ottawa which has already been put in place, so our speeches today are really a reflection on something which, to all intents and purposes, we cannot change.

However, I do believe it is still very appropriate to reflect upon and suggest to the Ministers, and to the Government, that we are concerned and worried about certain things which have taken place with Bill C-152, which Bill has changed the structures of external affairs and trade. I would particularly like to address the Bill from the aspect of its international effects. I feel that this kind of Bill will have serious repercussions down the road as it affects Canadians and as it affects the country of Canada.

As I understand it, the new Bill has set up a giant new Ministry under the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen). Under that ministry there are going to be two "minor" Ministries, shall we call them—or are they equal? I am not sure how it is going to operate. One Ministry is called the Ministry of External Relations and the other is called the Ministry of International Trade.

Of course, there is no doubt that when Canada deals with other people and other countries in the world there is a whole multitude of relationships taking place. The problem I have is that by putting the Ministry of International Trade under External Affairs there will probably be an imbalance in the perception and the way the Ministry will operate which I feel could be very dangerous to the human rights of many people around the world. Because the Department of Trade is not out there by itself, is not being directed by a Minister and making its decisions completely on its own but is being handled now by this "super" Ministry, I have a fear that many decisions which formerly might have been made for strict international and political reasons or for reasons which would be related to human rights, or which would involve the humanity part, will now be made for another reason, which will be profit at this particular time for some Canadian firm. The pressure which will be brought against the Department of External Affairs, not for human reasons but for reasons which relate to business and profit, I feel has become entrenched in a way that it was not before.

Since we have gone home for our holiday break during July and August there have been changes in the House of Commons and in the roles of different Hon. Members. At this particular time I would like, as a fellow colleague in the House of Commons, to congratulate the Hon. Member for York-Peel (Mr. Stevens) for having pulled the plum out of the basket and received the new role of external affairs critic for the Progressive Conservative Party. At the same time, though, I am sure he would be the first to appreciate the fact that I have great difficulty in understanding why that choice was made. One of the writers in *The Globe and Mail*, Michael Valpy, has said it must be part of the Irish humour of the new leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, who at the same time I would like to congratulate on his arrival in the House of Commons,