

### Supply

You are one of the finest quarterbacks the government ever had. Mr. Speaker, you know that in politics perception is reality.

I cannot for the life of me understand that these people would say: "Oh well, we do not do these things". That might be so. That might very well be so but there is the perception. In the New Testament there is a saying: "No person can serve two masters".

When Bill Fox goes on that Thursday television show in the morning defending the government, who is he representing? Whose interest is being represented? Is it the party's interest, his client's interest or the public's interest? When that same person comes to a public office holder and makes a pitch, whose interest is represented?

He has to choose. If he wants to be a lobbyist, then he must be squeaky clean and give up trying to help this government defeat itself. He has to choose. They should recognize they do not need his help. They are doing fine, thank you.

I understand as if by some unexplained extrasensory perception word has gone out in the lobbying circles. Government is not going to give any procurement contract unless you have people on the opposition side in the lobbying firm.

What do you think they have been doing? Ask the member. What do you think any self-respecting lobby firm headed by a bunch of Tories would go out and do? What do you think they would do? I ask you. I hear the answer you have given me. Of course, you have to get Liberals on board. Every single one of them has a Liberal in their stable. Okay.

We had, for example, and I may as well put it in print, Fred Doucet, who just signed up, and J.J. Blais, who used to be a minister here. He is now a lobbyist for them. They signed up Judd Buchanan. Then we have Earnsccliffe. They have signed up Michael Robinson. Then we had a group, I think it was Jon Johnson's group, GCL. They signed up David Collenette. He is a candidate for the Liberals now. He is a candidate, a lobbyist, a former cabinet minister and he is a honcho in the Liberal Party in southern Ontario appointing candidates left, right and centre.

The point is that they are covering the waterfront. When they notice the *Titanic* going down, the rats start

swimming toward the *Titanic*. It is the first time I have ever seen a rat swim toward a sinking ship. Mr. Speaker, you have to see something wrong with that and we have to do something about it. We have to clean up the act. We have to know specificity. We have to know who is doing what to whom, for how much and how they are doing it.

This is a family show. I did not say anything wrong. Mr. Speaker.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The hon. member did not say anything wrong. It is just that his time has expired.

**Mr. Jack Iyerak Anawak (Nunatsiak):** Mr. Speaker, I just have one short question for the hon. member who just spoke on the issue of ethics in the government. It may be considered more a hypothetical question than anything else.

The question is does he believe that ministers of the Crown should not lie to the public and then take a lie detector test to prove that they lied?

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Mr. Speaker, I certainly think that ethics in government is absolutely important. It is not just for the backbenchers; it is for the frontbenchers as well. It is for the bureaucracy we direct. It must be reflected in the rules we have. I think it is important that those of us who hold office recognize that and we march to that drummer.

We are in a field that is very different from running a corporation in the private sector. We are dealing with the public's business. I think we have to demand the highest ethical behaviour of members of Parliament, whether you are in the cabinet or whether you are a lowly backbencher, all of us. I make no apologies for anybody. I think we have to conduct ourselves in the long run.

I know what the member is getting at. It will be the constituents of that minister or of that member who will have to decide if they want that minister or that member representing them.

On the question of lobbying, I want to point out that lobbying is not like any business. It is dealing with the public interest.

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, I had almost forgotten about Shelly over here until my colleague reminded me.