

two areas have pointed out that the best way to get ahead is by not applying for Government grants because they cost more in accounting and legal fees than the grants are probably worth. By the time they end up obtaining it, there are many strings attached. In depressed areas in Renfrew, Arnprior, Calabogie and Pembroke there has been some success in attracting major facilities, which will definitely increase the number of employed people once they are running at full steam. We were more pleased with the smaller designations under DREE rather than the designations under DRIE which cover the entire country under four tiers.

Another aspect of the Bill about which I am not very pleased is the moving of the Department of Trade out of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce and into the Department of External Affairs. I have not played a great role in the Department of External Affairs, but my understanding is that it now has something like 156 undersecretaries and deputy undersecretaries. They are really deputy ministers and assistant deputy ministers, but External Affairs likes to have a somewhat different jargon because it is involved with protocol, foreign dignitaries and so on. It is so wrapped up in its protocol, in foreign dignitaries, in the nicety of things and having cocktail parties for each other that it forgets to get down to doing business. One of the beauties of the Department of Trade was that it was all about business. Now that it will be under the Department of External Affairs I am afraid that protocol, cocktail parties and the niceties of intergovernmental exchanges which do not amount to an awful lot of action will be more important than hard-nosed business talk, economic deals or trade between two countries or two industries.

Many years ago the Department of Trade was under the Department of External Affairs. Back in the mid-fifties it was made a Department of its own. Subsequently it was folded into Industry, Trade and Commerce. But trade has developed a great importance in the country. Canada thrives and survives on its trade. At present we participate in trade with Iran. I know we are not supposed to talk about it because we do not have any diplomatic or external affairs relations with Iran; we are not allowed to. They have broken off and we have broken off, but we do participate in trade. Now the Department of Trade will be subjected to the Department of External Affairs. I have heard a great amount of displeasure expressed by public servants in the portion of the Ottawa area I represent. The people in Trade were accustomed to a lot of driving force and trying to get a job done. They were not accustomed to playing around with the rules of etiquette, niceties, getting dressed up and attending cocktail parties. Although External Affairs is very important—it is a necessity—I do not think a quiet, academic type of Department such as the Department of External Affairs should become involved with an energetic, outward going and aggressive Department like the Department of Trade. Certainly Trade should not be subjugated under External Affairs. I am very concerned about this. Also I am very concerned about the triple-headed monster which has been created in the Department of External Affairs and about the 156 deputy ministers and assistant deputy ministers, who

of course are called undersecretaries and assistant undersecretaries over there. It is just bureaucracy gone wild.

I also have a concern for Canadian businessmen. Canada is encouraging businessmen to get out and expand foreign trade. We need it; it is important to our survival. The biggest impediment to business people expanding, making new contacts and expanding trade or even their operations at home is a lack of stability. Business people want to know what are the rules. They want to know the tax rules and the trading rules. They want to know what people to contact, whether they should go to the trade commission or to the embassy. Over the last number of years every businessman has been completely confused by the income tax rules. They do not know what to do and cannot plan. There are people who do not put money into businesses or who want to expand their ventures because they do not know where they are going. Now another road-block is being placed before them. The traditional routes for trade or export assistance are being destabilized. It is another impediment to the business community.

It is really an embarrassment for the Government to have to bring in this Bill. Hon. Members on the non-Cabinet benches of the Liberal Party are embarrassed because the Government has deemed that it cannot find people over there of sufficient quality to be Parliamentary Secretaries. It is making an amendment to the Parliamentary Secretaries Act so that it can go fishing for appointed Liberals in the Senate. When it cannot find people in its own ranks, it indicates that the Government or the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) does not have faith in those who have been elected and support him in the House. I think they are very embarrassed about it and that at the very least the Bill should be withdrawn.

● (1720)

I am not happy about the Bill going ahead. What is unfortunate is that the Government, once again without authority of Parliament, has gone ahead, made half the changes, and spent all the money. It got the movers in and moved the furniture. It will create a larger bureaucracy. It is a case of shuffling the chairs on the deck of the *Titanic*. I do not think it will improve for Canadians either our Department of External Affairs or, more important, our Department of Trade, which should be lean, aggressive and hard fighting.

**Mr. Thomas Siddon (Richmond-South Delta):** Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to participate in this debate even though some compare it to closing the barn door a year and a half after the horse has escaped and thoroughly fouled the barnyard. It is true that most of the damage of the old arrangements which are addressed by Bill C-152 has already been done. However, we have other horses to worry about and there is no indication that this Government has learned any lesson from the mistakes which are addressed in this Bill.

As Hon. Members know, this Bill embraces a New Department of External Affairs Act and makes a number of changes affecting parliamentary secretaries, as was just stated by my colleague for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton (Mr. Dick). Both of these amendments have their disturbing aspects, but I would